The Bookman.

"I am a Bookman."—*James Russell Lowell.*

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CONTENTS.

NEWS NOTES 229

WHOLESALE REPORTS OF THE BOOKSELLING TRADE 232

THE BOOKSELLERS' DIARY 234

THE READER—

The Schoolboy in Fiction. By W. E. W. Collins 235
The Choice of Books: Tobias Smollett. By Ranger 241
"The Bookman" Prize Competitions 244

NEW BOOKS—

Robert Greene. By R. S. Wallace 245
Biography in Instalments. (Goethe to 1788.) By Elizabeth Lee 246
The Great Tze-Shi. By Thomas Lloyd 247
Days with Velasquez. By J. M. Gibbon 247
Gallienne-cum-Hafiz. By Stephen Reynolds 248
"R. L. S." on Style. By L. G. Brock 248
The Voyage of the Discovery. By C. C. Penrose Fitzgerald 249
Wordsworth's Guide to the Lakes 250
Charing Cross and a Dream. By Wilfred Whitten 250
Prehistoric Stories. By Arthur Ransome 252
Confessions of an Optimist 252
Of Importance in His Day. By A. St. John Adcock 253
Lyrists of the Restoration 253

NOVEL NOTES—

The Red Seal—The Scholar's Daughter—No. 101—Mrs. Erricker's Reputation—The Gambler—Yolande—The Beauty-Shop—The Lady Noggs, Peeress—The Smiths of Surbiton—A Sword of the Old Frontier—The Blue Peter—The Ambush of Young Days—The Arrow of the North—A Mountain Europa—A Son of the People 254-56

THE BOOKMAN'S TABLE—

Vikings of the Pacific—The Three Dorset Captains at Trafalgar—Twenty Years in Paris—Louis XIV. and La Grande Mademoiselle 256-57

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS 257

NEW BOOKS OF THE MONTH 258

"THE BOOKMAN" EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT—

Memories of Eton. By Sir H. Maxwell, Bart.—Professor Murray's Electra—Bacchylides—Almond of Loretto—An Introductory History of England—Herbart's Psychology—And many other reviews and short notices of recent educational works

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NOTICES.

All communications intended for the Editor must be addressed to the Editor of The Bookman, 27, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

No unused communications will be returned whether stamps are enclosed for that purpose or not, and to this rule we can make no exception.

News Notes.

"A Human Face" is the title of the forthcoming novel by Mr. Silas Hocking, whose popularity as a novelist now dates back for close on thirty years. It has been stated by his publishers that over all that period the sale of his novels has averaged one thousand copies a week. The scene of the new novel is for the most part laid in East London, and the book affords a realistic account of the work of a clergyman and doctor in that district of mean streets.

Not infrequently it happens that the success of any one book of an author awakens an interest in those that have preceded it. The popularity of "Peter's Mother" has earned this gratifying success to Mrs. Henry de la Pasture. Messrs. Cassell will publish immediately a new illustrated edition of her charming story, "A Toy Tragedy."

In the fiction of last year, "This Our Sister" was one of the books that counted. In her new novel, "The Light," Mrs. Harold Gorst again deals with those phases of the life of the poor which she has made her special study. In this book, we understand, a new and striking note is sounded. The crude religion of the ignorant and uncultured human being dominates the story in place of the mere animal brutality of the slum.

Mr. John Foster Fraser's forthcoming volume, "Pictures from the Balkans," is the outcome of an extensive journey made last autumn. The author visited Servia and Bulgaria, crossed the Balkans into Turkey, and toured the vilayet of Adrianople, when there was much fighting between the Turks and Bulgarians. He then pursued his way through Macedonia into the disturbed regions, and pushed into the fastnesses of Albania. The volume will be profusely illustrated from photographs by the author.

Mr. Bart Kennedy, well described by Mr. Walkley as "a born tramp with a turn for writing," has a new volume in the press entitled, "In a Tramp Camp." The sketch which gives the title to the book is a vivid and amusing picture of Mr. Kennedy's experiences as

Robert Kennedy Duncan.
Author of "The New Knowledge."

one of the leaders in a great tramp settlement in America. Other papers give an amusing account of Mr. Kennedy as a strolling-player, property man, and circus assistant.

To their excellent series of illustrated monographs on popular modern artists, Messrs. Cassell will add immediately a volume on the work of Mr. Stanhope Forbes, A.R.A., and Mrs. Stanhope Forbes, A.R.W.S. The work will be illustrated by numerous reproductions in colour and in monochrome.

We are glad this month to draw the attention of our readers to the first issue—in its new form—of the doyen of all our periodicals, the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Its new editor, Mr. A. H. Bullen, the famous discoverer of so many gems of Elizabethan verse, has revived many of the old features associated with the name of Sylvanus Urban. Judging by the excellence of this first number of a new series, we believe that the *Gentleman's Magazine* will renew its fame. It makes a special appeal to the scholar, the antiquarian, and the bibliographer, and it bids fair to perform a service rendered by no other of our literary journals. Every bookman will wish prosperity to Mr. Bullen's effort to give a new lease of life to Edward Cave's brilliant magazine.

We have also to hail this month a new editor of *Punch*. Many versifiers have been hastily accredited the successors of Calverley. But the claims of Mr. Owen Seaman are unique. For wit and polish, we seek in vain for his superior in the literature of *vers de société*. It is significant of the high literary quality which has always been maintained by *Punch* that its new editor should have come to it first from a professorial chair.

The mere announcement of an epic poem comes nowadays as a bolt from the blue. It reminds us of the "great and gallant days" of literature. The most brilliant of our young poets, Mr. Alfred Noyes, is to essay the achievement, and interest in the enterprise is heightened by the fact that the venerable "Maga" is to print it in twelve monthly instalments. Poet and publisher are to be congratulated on their courage. It is good to think that we have still a young poet ambitious enough to write an epic on England's naval history and a famous magazine willing to be its sponsor. Readers of THE BOOKMAN will follow with much interest this adventure of a brilliant contributor.

Two interesting novels will be published this month by Mr. Alston Rivers—"The Fifth Queen," by Mr. Ford Madox Hueffer, the author of "The Soul of London"; and "Richard Baldock," by Mr. Archibald Marshall, whose book, "The House of Merrilees," was so successful last year.

"The Beauty Shop," by Daniel Woodroffe, whose portrait we are enabled to reproduce, has, we believe, already entered on a third edition.

A book of exceptional interest will be issued in the autumn by Messrs. Brown, Langham and Co. This is the "Reminiscences" of Mr. W. M. Rossetti, an illustrated record of the Rossetti family and of the pre-Raphaelite movement, with many interesting facts and illustrations hitherto unpublished.

Photo Bassano. **Mr. Owen Seaman.**
The new Editor of *Punch*.

Mr. Andrew Lang has just completed a Life of Joan of Arc, to be included in a new series entitled "The Children's Heroes," which Messrs. Jack are about to issue. The little volumes, of which fifteen are already in active preparation, are somewhat on the lines of their now famous "Told to the Children" Series. The latter series is also to be much increased during the present year, several new volumes being on the eve of publication.

Mr. Robert S. Garnett, in his introduction to the newly-discovered Thackeray Essays, which have just been published by Mr. Alston Rivers, under the title of "The New Sketch-Book," gives an interesting account of how he traced their authorship. He had occasion to turn to the *Foreign Quarterly* for a certain article, and went on to read a paper on the same subject from the "Paris Sketch-Book." Having done so, he turned back to the *Foreign Quarterly* to read a review of Sue's novel, "Mathilde." He was struck by the similarity of some observations in it to others he had just read in Thackeray's Essay, and saw that the "Sketch-Book" was published in 1840, and that it was stated in the preface that "about half of the sketches in this volume have already appeared in print in various periodical works." Acting on this hint, Mr. Garnett took up another volume of the *Foreign Quarterly*, and came across an important article, concerning the authorship of which he could have little hesitation. A further search revealed the many important articles of which the new volume is composed, and those who have seen them and are capable of judging declare that there is not the slightest doubt of their being the work of the great novelist.

Professor J. Churton Collins has edited for the Oxford University Press Matthew Arnold's "Merope," to which is appended the "Electra of Sophocles," translated by Mr. R. Whitelaw. In this volume, which will be ready immediately, an attempt is made to introduce and to bring home to modern readers who are not Greek scholars Attic tragedy in its most perfect form. If the book is favourably received, it is intended to follow it with a series of small volumes, each containing some leading Greek tragedy in an acknowledged masterpiece of translation, edited in the same manner.

Mr. Sidney Appleton will publish this month a new volume by Sir Edward Durand, Bart., C.B., entitled "Cyrus the Great King." The poem is the work of the elder brother of the distinguished Ambassador at Washington, Sir Mortimer Durand, who is also known as the author of more than one successful novel.

Mr. G. A. Morton will publish this month a biography of George Buchanan, by the Rev. D. Macmillan. This book will be uniform with the author's Life of John Knox, and will form a companion volume to it.

Wessex, that portion of the Southern and South-Western England which Thomas Hardy has so vividly described to the enchantment of thousands, is to form the subject of a colour book which Messrs. Black are about to publish. The illustrations are from a series of seventy-five water-colour drawings by Mr. Walter Tyndale, whose selection of subjects is so typical that anyone not conversant with the district may obtain from them a very accurate idea of what "the fayre land of Wessex" is like. Mr. Clive Holland, who writes the text accompanying Mr. Tyndale's pictures, presents Wessex, its people, its story and romance in an attractive form for the general reader.

The Rev. J. Jessop Teague (Morice Gerard).

Mr. Werner Laurie is just publishing "The Poison Dealer," by George S. Ohnet. This novel, by the author of "The Ironmaster," deals with up-to-date life among the wealthy classes of Paris, and the modern youth and his peculiar temptation in the *Ville Lumière* are graphically portrayed. The dramatic element is powerful here, as in all Ohnet's novels, and human passion and love in their most fatal form are powerfully depicted.

Among the newest sixpenny reprints announced,

Photo Russell & Sons.
Rosamond Langbridge.
Author of "The Ambush of Young Days." (Duckworth and Co.)

an interesting item is Farrar's "Life of Christ," with an introduction by the Bishop of London.

We are glad to notice that within a year of its publication that excellent and entertaining book, "Reminiscences of a Radical Parson," by the Rev. W. Tuckwell, is now issued in a cheap edition. This is one of many indications of the continually growing interest in works of a biographical character.

To their dainty series of Pocket Classics Messrs. Cassell will immediately add Dante's "Purgatory and Paradise," with sixty full-page illustrations by Doré. The *format* of this series is unexceptionable. The type is clear, the paper excellent, and the binding choice.

"New Ideas in India" is the title of a new work by Dr. John Morrison, which will be published next month by Mr. G. A. Morton. Dr. Morrison, who is a member of Senate of Calcutta University, traces the progress of the social, political, and religious developments in India during the nineteenth century.

The new series of shilling primers on Religion, published by Messrs. Constable, has made a highly successful start with the "Animism" of Mr. Edward Clodd and the "Pantheism" of Dr. Allanson Picton. Miss Jane Harrison's "Religion of Ancient Greece," and Dr. Giles's "Religion of Ancient China," are already published, and two specially novel and interesting volumes on "Magic and Fetishism" and the "Mythology of Ancient Britain" are just about to appear, while the "Celtic Religion," "Hinduism," and "Ancient Babylonia and Assyria" will probably be issued in April.

The Clarendon Press propose to publish in the autumn the literary remains of the late Professor York Powell, prefaced by a selection from his letters and a memoir. A final appeal for biographical material, and for the loan of letters, is made by the editor, Professor Oliver Elton, to whom communications should be addressed at 35, Parkfield Road, Liverpool.

For the illustration of the special article entitled "The Schoolboy in Fiction," permission to reproduce a number of pictures has been courteously granted by Messrs. Macmillan, Dent, Nelson, John Long, Methuen, Routledge, and Newnes.

Wholesale Reports of the Bookselling Trade.

(1) ENGLAND.

JANUARY 20TH TO FEBRUARY 20TH, 1906.

The general slackness prevalent throughout the opening weeks of the year has gradually given place to a healthier tone, and the prevailing feature of the past few weeks has been a decided increase in the demand, more especially marked, however, in volumes of fiction.

A few years ago an attempt was made to establish a series of examinations as credentials to the efficiency of the trade assistants, and an item in request a few days ago at one of the wholesale houses would have proved a searching test. It might have been put in this wise. Given a demand for "Through the Youngest Georges," what work would you supply? Certainly a candidate suggesting "Through the Yangtze Gorges," by Mrs. Little, might safely be assumed to have a fairly wide knowledge of general literature.

The 6s. novel is again booming, and the output during the month has been numerous, whilst a number of the issues have been the productions of authors who can be relied upon to gain an immediate hold on the public. The sales, therefore, in this line have been very successful. Special mention must be made of "The Gambler," "The Great Refusal," "The Scholar's Daughter," "Mrs. Erricker's Reputation," "A Son of the People," "Portreeve," and "Rose at Honeypot." Others of previous issue have also been constantly in request. A bright and chatty volume of talks

Daniel Woodroffe.
Author of "The Beauty Shop."

on various subjects by Mrs. John Lane, entitled "The Champagne Standard," has found a ready sale.

In non-copyright literature the purchasing power of the humble shilling appears to be limitless, and the most sensational item of the month has been the addition of the first fifty volumes of the "Everyman's Library" to the already large number of popular pocket issues. The general appearance of both type and binding is most attractive, and large numbers of these volumes, which cover an extensive literary field, have rapidly been disposed of.

The Pitt centenary has caused a fair demand for volumes of the life of that statesman, but the sales have chiefly centred in a new volume by Charles Whibley and the already well-known book by Lord Rosebery.

Sir Oliver Lodge's "Life and Matter," together with Haeckel's "Last Words on Evolution," have in sales divided the honours in their particular class.

Theology has claimed a few notable lines, such as "The Sacred Tenth," "Outlines of the Life of Christ," by Sanday "The Parables of Jesus," by Bishop Lang; and "It Ringeth to Evensong." Bishop Moule's short memoir of his daughter, entitled "The School of Suffering," has continued to prove an attractive item.

"The Comedy of Protection," by Guyot, coming at the psychological moment, readily caught on.

Commercial requisites, such as Diaries, Almanacks, and General Year-Books of Reference, to wit, "Whitaker" and "Hazell," have maintained a steady sale.

The following is a list of the books which have been most in demand throughout the past month:—

Six-shilling Novels.

The Gambler. By K. C. Thurston. (Hutchinson.)
The Great Refusal. By Maxwell Gray. (Long.)
The Scholar's Daughter. By Beatrice Harraden. (Methuen.)
Portreeve. By Eden Phillpotts. (Methuen.)
Rose at Honeypot. By M. E. Mann. (Methuen.)
A Son of the People. By Baroness Orczy. (Greening.)
Six Women. By Victoria Cross. (T. W. Laurie.)
Mrs. Erricker's Reputation. By Thomas Cobb. (Alston Rivers.)
Blue Peter. By Morley Roberts. (Nash.)
Irresponsible Kitty. By Curtis Yorke. (Long.)
Lady Noggs, Peeress. By E. Jepson. (Unwin.)
The House of Riddles. By Dorothea Gerard. (Hutchinson.)
The Beauty Shop. By D. Woodroffe. (T. W. Laurie.)

The Champagne Standard. By Mrs. J. Lane. 6s. (Lane.)
Life and Matter. By Sir Oliver Lodge. 2s. net. (Williams and Norgate.)
The Comedy of Protection. By Y. Guyot. 6s. (Hodder and Stoughton.)
The Parables of Jesus. By Bishop Lang. 6s. (Pitman.)
Last Words on Evolution. By P. N. Haeckel. 6s. net. (Owen.)
Life of William Pitt. By C. Whibley. 6s. net. (W. Blackwood.)
Pitt, by Lord Rosebery. 2s. 6d. (Macmillan.)
The Sacred Tenth. By H. Lansdell. 2 vols. 16s. (S.P.C.K.)
The School of Suffering. By Bishop Moule. 1s. 6d. (S.P.C.K.)
It Ringeth to Evensong. By A. G. Mortimer. 3s. 6d. (Skeffington.)
Abbott's English Lessons for English People. 4s. 6d. (Seeley.)
Various volumes in the Everyman's Library. Each 1s. and 2s. net. (Dent.)
Let Youth but Know. 3s. 6d. net. (Methuen.)
Cobden, Life. By John Morley. 2s. 6d. net. (Unwin.)
The Queen's Poor. By M. Loane. 6s. (E. Arnold.)
Diaries, Almanacks, and Year Books of Reference.

Weekly Reports of the Wholesale Book Trade.

Jan. 27—A quiet week.
Feb. 3—Still quiet; export brisk.
" 10—Demand brisker in home trade.
" 17—Improvement well maintained.

(2) SCOTLAND.

January 18th to February 17th, 1906.

Business during the latter end of January and the first week of February was, on the whole, better than usual this year. Since then, we regret to report that trade has been scarcely up even to that low standard experienced in February, but is now beginning to pick up. For this lapse the publishers are somewhat to blame. In former times, a General Election was considered a black cloud—not infrequently the forerunner of a black year—in publishing. With such experience, the publishers' orders were to delay all important publications until the election was well over. Now the election just past being so sharp, sudden, and decisive, our reading public were not entirely given over to the daily paper, so if we had had some of the delayed good strong fiction, we are sure it would have been well taken up, and in many cases relished as an antidote to election literature.

"John Ruskin" is at present well to the front in the popular market; the "Pocket Edition" has gone off well, and is still wending its way, and we are now to have him in the form of selections on a given subject. "Wealth" and "Girlhood," the first two volumes issued, are being asked for, but this is an unfortunate time of year for this form of booklet.

The fifty volumes of "The Everyman's Library," just issued from the house of Messrs. Dent, has caused quite a flutter in the trade. Biography, history, science, essays, belles-lettres, fiction, travel—are all included in the series. They are great value, good books, page neatly set, pretty title-pages and end papers; edited in many cases by experts, and clothed in tasteful binding; the coloured top is the only question. Yet although the booksellers are piling their windows with these volumes, many will be thinking them no unmixed blessing, as they are sure to interfere greatly with the sale of better books. This series will no doubt cause two, three, or even four different series of shilling reprints to say "good-night."

The novel of the month was Mrs. K. C. Thurston's "The Gambler." It has gone off well, and should sell for a considerable time. The other volumes of fiction in demand were Baroness Orczy's "A Son of the People," Curtis Yorke's "Irresponsible Kitty," Edgar Jepson's "The Lady Noggs, Peeress," Maxwell Gray's "The Great Refusal," Thos. Cobb's "Mrs. Erricker's Reputation," and "Six Women," by Victoria Cross.

The orders for "When it was Light," a reply to "When it was Dark," were so large that the publisher was unable to supply all orders on day of publication.

The new edition just issued of Mrs. Beeton's "Household Management," which is now net, is moving off steadily. This new edition is revised and enlarged, and in its new dress should be well taken up. "Tried

Favourites Cookery Book," issued by Mr. J. B. Fairgrieve, has been a great success, it being now in its fiftieth thousand. "The Lossiemouth Cookery Book," which was originally issued as a bazaar book (as also was the former book), is being asked for in the North.

The following half-crown magazines had extra sale this month:—*Contemporary Review*, *National Review*, *Blackwood's Magazine*, *Nineteenth Century*.

The following is a list of the books which have been most in demand during the last month:—

Six-shilling Novels.

The Gambler. By K. C. Thurston. (Hutchinson.)
The Great Refusal. By Maxwell Gray. (J. Long.)
Irresponsible Kitty. By Curtis Yorke. (J. Long.)
Six Women. By Victoria Cross. (T. W. Laurie.)
Mrs. Erricker's Reputation. By Thomas Cobb. (Rivers.)
A Son of the People. By Baroness Orczy. (Greening.)
The Lady Noggs, Peeress. By Edgar Jepson. (Unwin.)
The Scholar's Daughter. By Beatrice Harraden. (Methuen.)
The Healers. By Maarten Maartens. (Constable.)
The House of Mirth. By Mrs. E. Wharton. (Macmillan.)

Miscellaneous.

"Everyman's Library." 50 volumes. 1s. net. (Dent.)
Beeton's Household Management. 7s. 6d. net. (Ward and Lock.)
Tried Favourites Cookery Book. 1s. net.; cloth, 1s. 6d. net. (Fairgrieve.)
Ruskin Treasuries: "Wealth," "Girlhood." 6d. net; leather, 1s. net. (G. Allen.)
When it was Light. 1s. net. (J. Long.)
The Trial of Dr. Pritchard (Notable Scottish Trials). Edited by W. Roughead. 5s. net. (Hodge.)
Gowans' Practical Picture Books. No. 1—Ambulance Illustrated. By W. Cullen, M.D. 6d. net. (Gowans and Gray.)
The Book of Cut Flowers: A complete guide to the preparing, arranging, and preserving of flowers for decorative purposes. By R. P. Brotherston. 3s. 6d. net. (Foulis.)

Sixpenny Novel Reprints.

Barlash of the Guard. By H. Seton Merriman. (Newnes.)
At Sunwich Port. By W. W. Jacobs. (Newnes.)
The Red Axe. By S. R. Crockett. (Pearson.)
Allan Quartermain. By H. Rider Haggard. (Newnes.)
The Silken Rein. By Nat Gould. (Everett.)
Just a Girl. By Charles Garvice. (Newnes.)
A Prince of Sinners. By E. P. Oppenheim. (Ward, Lock.)
The Unlucky Number. By Eden Phillpotts. (Newnes.)
The Grand Babylon Hotel. By A. Bennett. (Chatto and Windus.)
Cherry's Child. By John Strange Winter. (White.)

The Booksellers' Diary.

MARCH 5—APRIL 6.

PUBLICATION DATES OF SOME NOTABLE BOOKS

March 5th.

BARNES, A. S., M.A.—The Witness of the Gospels, 6d. net, 1s. net ..... (Sands)
MURRAY, AITKEN.—Tommy Brown: A Bad Boy's Manners, 6d. net ..... (Sands)
RUSKIN, JOHN.—Library Edition. Vol. XXII. ..... (G. Allen)
WILSON-BARRETT, ALFRED.—The Man with the Opals, 6s. (Ward, Lock)
CAINE, WILLIAM.—Pilkington, 3s. 6d. ..... (Ward, Lock)

March 7th

PARR, OLIVE KATHARINE.—Pearl; or, A Passing Brightness, 3s. 6d. net ..... (Sands)

March 8th.

SALMON, ARTHUR L.—Literary Rambles in the West of England, 6s. net ..... (Chatto)
DYSON, EDWARD.—In the Roaring Fifties, 6s. ..... (Chatto)
CROKER, B. M.—Beyond the Pale. Cheap Edition. 6d. (Chatto)

March 10th.

HARKER, L. ALLEN.—Concerning Paul and Fiammetta, 5s. (E. Arnold)
RIDDING, LADY LAURA, ED.—The Church of Christ (Visitation Charges of the First Bishop of Southwell), 10s. 6d. net ..... (E. Arnold)
DE ROTHSCHILD, J. A.—Shakespeare and his Day, 5s. net (E. Arnold)
ALEXANDER, ELEANOR.—The Lady of the Well, 6s. (E. Arnold)
HILLARS, ASHTON.—The Mistakes of Miss Manisty, 6s. (Ward, Lock)
FEENEY, ALFRED.—By a Vanished Hand, 6s. (Ward, Lock)

March 15th.

HEALY, CHRIS.—Mara: An Unconventional Woman, 6s. (Chatto)
RUSKIN, JOHN.—Art. Leather, 1s. net; cloth, 6d. net (G. Allen)

March 16th.

BOOTHBY, GUY.—The Race of Life, 5s. ..... (Ward, Lock)

March 22nd.

MACKAY, WILLIAM.—A Mender of Nets, 6s. ..... (Chatto)
BARING-GOULD, REV. S.—Eve. Cheap Edition. 6d. (Chatto)

March 23rd.

MOBERLEY, L. G.—That Preposterous Will, 6s. (Ward, Lock)

March 29th.

WARDEN, FLORENCE.—Love and Lordship, 6s. ..... (Chatto)

March 30th.

OPPENHEIM, E. PHILLIPS.—Mr. Wingrave, Millionaire, 6s. (Ward, Lock)

April 2.

RUSKIN, JOHN.—Education and Youth (Ruskin Treasuries Series) ..... (G. Allen)

April 5th.

MOYES, MISS.—The Existence of God, 6d. net, 1s. net (Sands)

During the Month. Dates not Fixed.

JOHNSTON, SIR HARRY, G.C.M.G.—Liberia: The Negro Republic in West Africa. Two Volumes. Illustrated. 42s. net ..... (Hutchinson)
PODMORE, FRANK.—Robert Owen. Two Volumes. 24s. net (Hutchinson)
MACKINLEY, M. STERLING.—Antoinette Sterling, and Other Celebrities, 16s. net ..... (Hutchinson)
HAGGARD, LT.-COL. A. C. P., D.S.O.—The Real Louis the XVth., 24s. net ..... (Hutchinson)
MAXWELL, WILLIAM.—From the Yalu to Port Arthur, 16s. net ..... (Hutchinson)
JOHNSTON, W. E.—Memoirs of Malakoff, 24s. net (Hutchinson)
UPTON, GEORGE P.—The Standard Operas, 3s. net (Hutchinson)
LORIMER, NORMA.—By the Waters of Carthage, 12s. net (Hutchinson)
Living Races of Mankind. By Eminent Specialists. 10s. 6d. net ..... (Hutchinson)
WILLIAMS, H. NOEL.—Five Fair Sisters, 16s. net (Hutchinson)

COUPON.

YOUNG AUTHORS' PAGE.

MARCH, 1906.

THE YOUNG AUTHORS' PAGE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE YOUNG AUTHORS' PAGE.

In future all criticisms of MSS. will be posted direct to the authors as soon as possible after receipt. Two coupons cut from current numbers of "The Bookman" (see below), together with a stamped addressed envelope, must be enclosed with each MS.

All communications must be addressed to the
Editor of the Young Authors' Page,
"Bookman" Office,
27, Paternoster Row, London.

Terms for fuller opinions on MSS. may be had on application. Every endeavour will be made to return MSS., but should writers desire their MSS. returned, they must send stamped addressed envelopes or wrappers. When this rule is complied with we shall make every endeavour to return the MSS. But we undertake no responsibility whatever for their custody or safe return, and writers are earnestly requested to keep copies.

THE READER.

THE SCHOOLBOY IN FICTION.

By W. E. W. Collins.

THE schoolboy in fiction has been a stumbling-block to many narrators. Few have described him well, many have conspicuously failed; Tom Hughes alone has done him full justice.

Does the fault lie in the author, or in the subject matter? Probably in the former. For that the life at a public school is not in itself difficult to describe will be patent to anyone who reads "A Day of My Life at Eton," by an Eton boy. The story is superficial, but so well told that in a short half-hour the reader seems to understand every-day life at Eton. This at once suggests the idea that other writers have put off their task too long, and have not attempted to describe school life until they have forgotten their early impressions of it. The subject, treated from a pedagogic, parental, or even middle-aged point of view is apt to lack vitality, and the "genial and hearty freshness and youthfulness of character" which belongs to boyhood is lost. Not so, however, in Tom Hughes's case. He may be numbered among those happy few who not only "lose nothing of the boy that is worth keeping, and build up the man upon it," but succeed in retaining to the end of life's chapter the active memory and vivid enthusiasm of boyhood.

It has been a common criticism that there is too much preaching in "Tom Brown." Let the boy-reader skip the sermonising if it bores him. Even so, he may learn from Tom's school career much that will tend to his edification. How good a fellow is Tom, by no manner of means immaculate, but ever honest and straightforward! If in his reckless moods he defies rules and regulations, he never seeks by unworthy methods to evade the consequences, though the ways of the transgressor were by no means easy in the strong reign of Arnold. Tom goes to Rugby in a comparatively untamed state, having had a very limited experience of the private school of the period. Had he gone as boys go nowadays, with much of the old Adam educated out of him beforehand, his lot in the Lower School at Rugby might have fallen upon easier lines, but he would hardly have developed into so strong and so self-reliant a character. The early struggles on the village green with Harry Winbura, the expeditions with old Benjie, and his association with East supplied the best possible training for a boy of his type, and, finally, George Arthur almost involuntarily made good that which was wanting in his character.

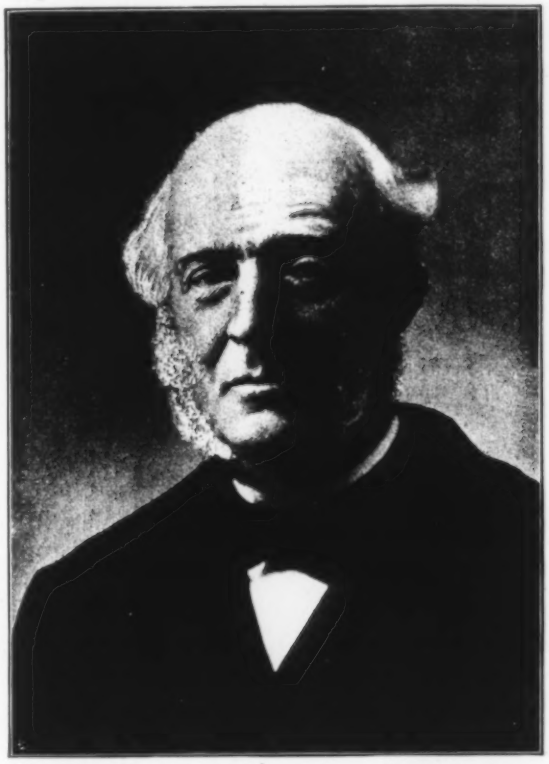

Photo Elliott & Fry. **Tom Hughes.**

The author of "Tom Brown's Schooldays."

"What do you want to do here, and to carry away?" enquired Arthur.

"I want to be A1 at cricket and football, and all the other games, and to make my hands keep my head against any fellow, lout or gentleman. I want to get into the sixth before I leave, and to please the doctor, and I want to carry away just as much Latin and Greek as will take me through Oxford respectably, . . to leave behind me the name of a fellow who never bullied a little boy, or turned his back on a big one."

Not a very ambitious programme, perhaps, but in default of a better it may serve the turn. Fortunately, or unfortunately, we cannot put back the clock and compare the Tom Brown at Rugby to-day with the Tom Brown at Rugby seventy years ago. The circumstances of school life have altered, and the old theory of a natural antagonism between masters and boys has long ago been exploded.

"You see, Tom," says East, in the days when he is beginning to take life more seriously; "when you and I came to school, there were none of these sort of notions. . . . What one has always felt about the masters is, that it's a fair trial of skill and last between us and them, like a match at football, or a battle. . . All's fair in war, but lying."

The game of revolt against constituted authority then was open and above-board, fair give and take, so much so, indeed, that it must have come almost as a shock to East and Tom when, on one occasion, Arnold omitted to flog them for a daring act of mischief. But that other war against illegitimate authority was war to the knife, indeed, a Polemos Aspondos, with none of the amenities of civilised warfare.

"What right have the fifth-form boys to fag us as they do?" enquired Tom.

"No more right than you have to fag them."

And then Tom announces that he has made up his mind that he "won't fag,

"In another moment the Slogger is thrown again heavily for the third time."

(Reproduced from the "Library of Modern Classics" Edition of "Tom Brown's Schooldays," by kind permission of Mr. John Long.)

except for the sixth," and through evil report and good report he sticks to his resolution, and no amount of bullying or discomfort induces either him or his associates to abandon the line they have taken up. Once only in the course of the uneven struggle, when the young Ishmaelites are reduced to what might fairly be called the "wretchlessness of despair," the idea is mooted of invoking the assistance of higher powers—the Doctor or the sixth form. But the suggestion is only made to be scouted. The code of school morality will not countenance sneaking. So the battle is fought out to the bitter end, and the fags eventually triumph. The struggle has its good effect on the character of the two ringleaders, even though it temporarily damages their reputation. The lesson of self-reliance is learnt in the hard school of adversity, but the diamonds are still in the rough, and require much polishing. And so a refining element is introduced in the person of George Arthur. It is more than interesting to watch Tom awaken to a new sense of responsibility, to note how strong in him is the protective instinct when once aroused, how jealously he resents interference, whether kindly or the reverse, between himself and his protégé. That in the intimacy of a study partnership he should, by insensible degrees, have succumbed to Arthur's refining influence, is natural enough.

"Video meliora proboque," says the old Latin grammar.

But it comes to the reader as a sort of revelation when East, on the surface sceptical, finally admits his admiration for the young reformer.

"Well, after all, he's the most wonderful little fellow I ever came across. There ain't such a meek, humble boy in the school. Hanged if I don't think now, really, Tom, that he believes himself a much worse fellow than you or I. . . . But he turns you or me round his little finger, old boy, there's no mistake about it."

It is "all along o' Arthur," as our rustics put it, that Tom finally capitulates to Arnold, when, on the last day of his school-life, he learns from the "young Master," the forerunner of a new generation, how the Doctor has been the guiding spirit throughout; how "besides teaching the sixth, and governing and guiding the whole school, editing classics, and writing histories, the great Head Master had found time in those busy years to watch over the career even of him, Tom Brown, and his particular friends—and no doubt fifty other boys at the same time."

And so we take leave of Tom Brown, the schoolboy.

But how well drawn are the minor characters in the little drama: Old Brooke, the Progressive Conservative and Arnold's earliest convert; Young Brooke, so palpably honest and right-headed that we may forgive the weakness of his argument as to the exercise of a sixth-form boy's discretion in the matter of stopping a fight; Martin, the naturalist and experimental philosopher; "Poor" Diggs, clever, right-minded, and withal so feckless; Flashman, bully and drunkard; Slogger Williams, whose anxiety to punch "that little sneak Arthur's head" is so wholly natural.

How good, too, the descriptions: of the fight which was so wisely left a drawn battle; of the football match when East and Tom showed the good stuff they were made of; of the visit to Caldecott's spinney, which so nearly led to disastrous consequences; finally, of the lost M.C.C. match, which the school might so easily have been made to win.

And to conclude, the few touches of sentiment are excellent. There is nothing unboylike about Tom Brown's emotion when he encountered Arthur's mother; nothing unmanly in his grief over Arnold's death; nothing that is not natural in East's confession that he had burst out crying in his interview with the Doctor, when the "great, grim man whom he had feared more than anybody on earth, sitting down by his side, and stroking his hair, lifted him, comforted him, and encouraged him as if he had been a little child." I take it that many Rugbeians some forty years ago could have told similar tales of a later Head Master, whom those outside the circle simply regarded as a "great, grim man."

There is a lamentable falling-off in quality when we turn from the vigorous pages of "Tom Brown" to Farrar's two productions, "Eric" and "St. Winifred's." "Constructive devilry," *vide* Stalky and Co., is perhaps too strong a verdict on well-intentioned work, but the school-boy's familiar "awful rot" is hardly adequate to the situation.

Eric and Co. are well parodied in the first part of "The Bending of a Twig,"* and on the whole the parody is more readable than the original.*

"Godfrey Marten" is too robust a character to be an altogether comfortable member of society.† Ever ready with his fists, he is over-anxious, on small provocation, to punch some other fellow's head. However, there were apparently at Cliborough College a good many fellows whose heads badly wanted punching, and a dove in that eagle's nest might have had a poor time of it. The reader's sympathy will go out to Godfrey when an untoward accident stops his second encounter with the fat bully, Dobson, in his early school days, and so it is all the more satisfactory to learn that his first act of authority in his capacity of School Prefect puts "Paid" to a long-standing account. An inmate of a house that is much divided against itself, Godfrey holds his own in the daily game of contention; but being one of those unfortunate blunderers who are always found out, he contrives to run his head against too many brick walls. That he should twice over have narrowly escaped expulsion argues little for the common sense of the Headmaster, who might have seen at a glance that the boy's intentions were honest, if the methods were faulty.

"I am afraid," said Dr. Stainer, "this temper of yours makes it impossible for you to live like a schoolboy." But even a man's temper has been known to be ruffled when he feels that he has been unjustly accused.

The invocation of a father to play the part of the *Deus ex machina*, and resolve difficult problems, is, to say the least of it, unusual. A stronger man, and a man more sure of his ground than Dr. Stainer, might have packed boy and parent off the premises within half an hour, and chanced an appeal to the Governing Body.

A good point about Godfrey is that he accepts punishment—now and again unmerited punishment—as a natural part of school life. That he should have been caned twice over in one day for attempting to punch Dobson's head, was obviously all wrong. All the more credit to the victim that he nursed no malice against either of his punishers.

A modest fellow, too, is Godfrey, so modest in his accounts of even the "big things" that he did in the playing field, that we write him down without hesitation as a far better game-player than he pretends to be.

Perhaps the game-playing is over-done, but the tendency of the day is to over-do this sort of thing. Even so the compulsion "*vi et armis*" of passive objectors to figure in a house-match sounds like a dangerous experiment. The unwilling recruit is a very unsafe ally in the football field, and moreover, the reader is left to wonder what would have happened if the opposite faction had come off victorious in the preliminary encounter.

Mackenzie, the head of the house, with so much zeal so little tempered by discretion, is a good picture. But his methods are too drastic. He is far more of an autocrat than the Czar of Russia, or "Pater" Brooke, of the School House. Discipline is discipline all the world over, and there are occasions, as Arnold pointed out, when a good thrashing, administered by the Head of the House or a strong-handed deputy, supplies a good object-lesson. But even in these days, when game-playing is regarded as a serious business, to thrash a boy once because he has incidentally caused a hulking bully, who chances to be a game-player, to sprain his wrist, and on another occasion because, when supposed to be in training, he has eaten new bread, is a rather high-handed proceeding.

One moral which a schoolboy may gather from "Godfrey Marten" is that it is injudicious to provoke an argument with a master, more especially when that master happens to be a "beast" of the Leach type. There are, fortunately, more Sandymans than Leaches on the staffs of our public schools.

"Hugh Rendal" introduces an entirely new factor into school life—the influence of women.* Three ladies exercise a more or less direct influence on the hero's school career—his own mother, who "nags" at him, the Marquis's mother, who supplies her own young scapegrace with the wherewithal to make a fool of himself and temporarily demoralise Hugh; a tutor's wife, who, taking a lively interest in her hus-

* "The Bending of a Twig." By Desmond F. T. Coke. 6s. (Chapman and Hall.)

† "Godfrey Marten." By Charles Turley.

* "Hugh Rendal." By Lionel Portman.

"Eric overheard the word 'Roslyn.'"

(Reproduced from "Eric," by kind permission of Messrs. A. and C. Black.)

From a drawing by T. H. Robinson.

"The farmer and his men are making good running about a field behind."

(Reproduced from the Temple Classics Edition of "Tom Brown's School-days," by kind permission of Messrs. J. M. Dent and Co.)

band's work, plays an elder sister's part to the young scholar.

I am at one with the author in thinking that "pi-jaws," more especially home "pi-jaws," commonly miss the mark, and do more harm than good. In any case, let the male sex retain the privilege of preaching—to boys. For there is a certain period of boyhood during which the very semblance of feminine control is actively resented. Home influence and example are worth a whole volume of sermons. The House Master, or, on extreme occasions, the Headmaster, is the right person to play Polonius.

From a drawing by Gordon Browne.

"He lifted the riding-whip."

(Reproduced from "Eric," by kind permission of Messrs. A. and C. Black.)

And now for the boy himself. Poor Hugh is by no means the only youngster who has discovered that intellectual precocity often entails a certain amount of discomfort in the early stages of public school life. Grit, however, comes to his rescue, and pulls him through the hard times in the Lower V, fortunately, before his spirit is broken. Even the subsequent period of his unfortunate alliance with "Smith" does him no permanent injury.

A word about "Smith," who will be found in most schools, though he may not always happen to be a Marquis. He is by no means a bad fellow at heart, being often more sinned against than sinning; for instance, when he is condemned by evil fate to be the only son of a hopelessly silly widow. Under salutary male discipline there is no reason why "Smith" may not eventually develop into a useful and attractive character.

A new Headmaster, the right man in the right place, discovers possibilities in Hugh, and wisely ignoring past escapades, selects him for a position of considerable responsibility. As head of a strange dormitory, new difficulties beset the path of the young prefect. But grit again comes to the rescue, and Hugh finishes his school career in a veritable blaze of triumph. There are good characters in the book—Corrie, head of the Corunna dormitory, who sees more than people give him credit for; his successor, Blantyre, a gruff and laconic edition of "Pater" Brooke; Howden, a good fellow devoid of priggishness; and Gurney, Hugh's tutor, who does his work, uncongenial work apparently, both wisely and conscientiously. The inevitable bullies, Maice and Cales, are brutes of the first water. The former, a useful game-player of a thoroughly bad type, is allowed under the old régime to complete his school career; but the new broom, which explores many dusty corners, sweeps Cales out of the way before his time. Some scenes are well told, others are portentously dull, and too much stress is laid upon customs peculiar to "Larne." Incomparably the best chapter in the book is devoted to a football match, which the author describes like a man who knows his ground thoroughly.

"Woe to the land," says Alice Lee to the disguised Charles, "which shall number thee or such as thee among her nobles and rulers."

Mutatis mutandis, may not the same apply to the school that shelters a Scaife?*

"The Hill" is good in parts, but there is too much sentiment. Also, Scaife would have been more at home in the pages of "When it was Dark" than in a story of school life. It is true that Jupiter sometimes nods, and that now and again, in the case of a brilliant scholar or athlete, the eye of retributive justice is wilfully blind. Not so, however, where an unmistakable blackguard is concerned. It is hardly conceivable that

* "The Hill." By Horace Vachell. 6s. (Murray.)

a sensible man like Warde, jealous of the reputation of his house, could have ignored the possibilities for harm involved in Scaife's presence. The Eton match, let alone a house-cup, was all too dearly won where victory depended on the assistance of a Scaife. Recognised as a cad of the first water, even by his intimate associates, he is strong enough in mind as well as body to turn round with his little finger not only the weak Head of the House, but other far better fellows. Not so much a bully as a deliberate perverter of morality, his athletic proficiency intensifies his powers of doing harm. Hero-worship, unfortunately, among a certain section of boys, knows no limits, and is wholly indiscriminating.

But Desmond both can and does discriminate. A gentleman himself, he recognises that he is associating with a thoroughpaced cad, and yet continues to associate with him. Here again the position is almost inconceivable. Yet moths do flutter round candles, and want of ballast still ruins many potentially good fellows. Desmond has so many attractive qualities, and there is so much of the right stuff in him, that everybody must be glad when he finally extricates himself from the clutches of Scaife, and reverts to the old friendship with John.

For John will appeal to most people. Notwithstanding occasional weaknesses, he is so thorough, as thorough as a boy can be expected to be. A staunch, self-sacrificing friend, a loyal member of his House, he has the better part—dogged resolution—of a Tom Tulliver, the higher instincts of a George Arthur, with whom he shares that keener interest in his friend's triumphs than in his own.

Still, after all, "Fluff" and "the Duffer" are perhaps the most familiar characters; Fluff, who has made himself into an athlete, contrary to all physical expectation; honest old "Duffer," who clings to his Waterbury watch.

From a Drawing by L. Raven Hill. **Stalky and Co.**

"They wriggled into the top of an old hollow double hedge."

(Reproduced from the *Windsor Magazine*, by kind permission of Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd.)

None but a constant habitué could have so well described the match at Lord's. It may be unusual for each captain to make a century, but Fluff was as sure to "drop" the Eton captain, as the Duffer was to bowl that rank bad longhop, which, indirectly, won the match.

And the side scenery is so good; the conversation on the Trent coach; the Rev. Septimus with his shocking bad hat, which does not affect his enjoyment in the least, and the comments of the spectators. Other men besides Warde have hidden themselves in the back regions at the critical moment; I fear that other batsmen besides Scaife have used a naughty word under extenuating circumstances; other boys besides the Eton captain have gracefully congratulated a successful adversary.

I think that "The Hill" ranks next to "Tom

From a Drawing by L. Raven Hill. **Stalky and Co.**

"Stories—unusual stories—are told in the form-room."

(Reproduced from the *Windsor Magazine*, by kind permission of Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd.)

Brown's School Days," but that without Scaife, and without quite so much sentiment, it might have been better than it is.

Either book has its black pages. The roasting of a fag is now out of date. The gambling story, it is a relief to hear, is founded on an isolated incident.

Once in a generation a drunkard of the Scaife or Flashman type may be found at any public school. Fortunately, both for society at large and the individual, popular opinion and school tradition condemn the practice. Boys, as well as higher authorities, take cognisance of certain vices and "quarrel with their neighbour because he follows his own tastes and cast looks at him intended to annoy if they cannot punish."

But what of Stalky and Co., cynic philosophers, moral reformers, impressionists, and so forth?* Sound fellows in their way, these, and sensible, but too old in their knowledge of the world. To be sure the school which Mr. Rudyard Kipling describes is not a public school in the ordinary acceptance of the term. That can hardly be called a public school where "Sunday bags," watches, etc., are periodically pawned; where the friendly master smokes his pipe with a conscience void of offence in a boy's study that has a notoriously bad name; where birching is not in vogue, and a caning, however heartily administered, is ushered in and completed amidst an accompaniment of dry commentaries, and followed up by the loan of yellow-backed novels. All the same, Stalky and his friends have a good deal of healthy public school spirit. Scapegraces and defiers of legitimate authority, of course, the whole trio; but they redeem the situation by their readiness to recognise sterling merit, even in a superior, and by their wholehearted admiration for the Head, and for his most unconventional but most convincing methods.

At the same time, they are too clever, and the good thing comes off too often. Not with impunity always. But punishment sits lightly on the shoulders of those who feel that from their own point of view—and perhaps from the Headmaster's — they really have had the best of the argument. They are adepts in methods and practices which the public schoolboy seldom has the wit or the audacity to dream of. Even the bullying, which they employ only in a good cause, partakes of the nature of a fine art, while their power of irritating unpopular masters and prefects is reduced to an accurate science.

A perusal of "Stalky and Co." will amuse many a boy, and harm none. But the foolish wight who is tempted to imitate their performances is more likely to come to signal grief than to succeed in a state of society where "the abnormal" is tabooed.

Good-bye, Stalky and Co.! You may be abnormal, but you are infinitely amusing, and if your old school, Westward Ho College presumably, still turns out many of your class, it is doing good work in a quiet corner of England. May the day be far distant when Charity Commissioners, or any other reformers, shall lay their sacrilegious hands upon it. "Let well alone," is a sound motto.

It is a mistake, as the author of "The Bending of a Twig" points out, to describe a particular school, and then affect to disguise the name, not quite fair play to trot out a living master and invite the public to approve or condemn his paces and action. The constant repetition of "technical terms" is apt to wax wearisome.

Ars est celare artem.

* "Stalky and Co." By Rudyard Kipling.

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THE CHOICE OF BOOKS.

"A good book is the precious life-blood of a master-spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life."—MILTON.

TOBIAS SMOLLETT.

WHEN we think of the great writers of the eighteenth century, we cannot fail to be astonished by the versatility of their achievement. It is not difficult to imagine what would be the reputation of an author of to-day who set up as reviewer, historian, critic, medical writer, poet, pamphleteer, novelist, dramatist, writer of travels, translator, and satirist. His appearance would be hailed with delight—by youthful reviewers eager to slash and slay. He would be told to stick to his last or go back to his shop. He would speedily be stoned to death by well-worn missiles picked from early numbers of *Blackwood* and the *Quarterly*. But all this was quite different in the eras of Anne and the Georges. The finest epitaph ever written on a literary man was composed in the eighteenth century, and it was written by one miscellanist about another. And the interesting feature of that epitaph is that so far from trying to conceal the versatility of its subject it draws from that very quality its matchless pointedness and force. "Scarcely any kind of writing did he leave untouched, and he touched nothing that he did not adorn." It is true that the circumstances attending this epitaph are of too special a kind to enable us to generalise from it. It is Johnson writing of Goldsmith. It is the tribute of one of the greatest of English critics to the greatest of English miscellaneous writers. But it is none the less true that it indicates a real parting of the ways between the literary conditions of the eighteenth century and our own. Goldsmith was not alone in having many strings to his bow. Richardson, with his shop behind him, could afford to specialise as an analyser of "the female heart"; Gray, in the seclusion of his rooms at Cambridge, could give months to the polishing of a perfect quatrain. But the professional man of letters, if he were to live at all, had to execute the orders of his book-seller-publisher, conciliate a political patron, and endeavour to win favour with a theatre-manager. The eighteenth century writers were not always born versatile. Versatility was thrust upon them. The rewards of fiction could not be depended on for a living in an age which saw "The Vicar of Wakefield" purchased for sixty pounds—"a sufficient price too," said the kind middleman, Samuel Johnson. Logic bids us always seek for the simplest reasons for apparent phenomena. The versatility of the eighteenth century can easily be traced back to one parent—the old mother of invention.

The eleven qualifications with which we have credited our butt of modern criticism is not an imaginary list. On the contrary, it is only an imperfect attempt to complete Thackeray's classification of the works of Smollett. The eighteenth century was in many ways the most eventful epoch in Scottish history. It witnessed not only a political but a literary Union. It is only with the latter that we are here concerned, and its two outstanding features are the rise of Jacobite literature and the first signs of the Scottish annexation of Fleet Street. The rebellions of '15 and '45 brought calamity to many famous Scottish houses, and their cadets were driven to seek fame as soldiers of fortune in many foreign lands. The descendants of the house of Keith won glory in Germany and Russia. The humbler literary adventurer put his half-crown and his tragedy in his pocket and found his way to Fleet Street. James Thomson did this, as did many another, but there was never a pluckier gentleman-adventurer than Tobias Smollett. Had his fortune permitted it, he would have been a soldier. But his fate made him a man of letters, in which capacity he fought as brave a fight as any that has been recorded. "He fought endless literary battles: and braved and wielded for years the cudgels of controversy. It was a hard and savage fight in those days, and a niggard pay. He was oppressed by illness, age, narrow fortune; but his spirit was still resolute, and his courage steady; the battle over, he could do justice to the enemy with whom he had been so fiercely engaged, and give a not unfriendly grasp to the hand that had mauled him. He is like one of those Scotch cadets, of whom history gives us so many examples, and whom, with a national fidelity, the great Scotch novelist has painted so charmingly. Of gentle birth and narrow means, going out from his northern home to win his fortune in the world, and to fight his way, armed with courage, hunger, and keen wits. His crest is a shattered oak-tree, with green leaves yet springing from it. On his ancient coat-of-arms there is a lion and a horn; this shield of his was battered and dinted in a hundred fights and brawls, through which the Scotchman bore it courageously. You see somehow that he is a gentleman through all his battling and struggling, his poverty, his hard-fought successes, and his defeats."

Tobias George Smollett was born in 1721 at Dalquhorn, Dumbartonshire. His grandfather, Sir James Smollett of Bonhill, was a distinguished advocate, a member of the last Scottish parliament, and one of the Commissioners for the Union. Shortly after the birth of Tobias, his father died, leaving his two sons and one daughter to the care of Sir James. The elder brother entered the army, and had only gained his company when he perished at sea. Tobias Smollett's ambition to follow his brother's career was not gratified, and the boy, after a good education at Dumbarton

From a Drawing by H. M. Brock. **Vice Versa.**

"No! my stars! it's the boy after all!"

(Reproduced from the Sixpenny Edition of "Vice Versa," by kind permission of Messrs. Geo. Newnes, Ltd.)

THE CHOICE OF BOOKS.

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TOBIAS SMOLLETT.

WHEN we think of the great writers of the eighteenth century, we cannot fail to be astonished by the versatility of their achievement. It is not difficult to imagine what would be the reputation of an author of to-day who set up as reviewer, historian, critic, medical writer, poet, pamphleteer, novelist, dramatist, writer of travels, translator, and satirist. His appearance would be hailed with delight—by youthful reviewers eager to slash and slay. He would be told to stick to his last or go back to his shop. He would speedily be stoned to death by well-worn missiles picked from early numbers of *Blackwood* and the *Quarterly*. But all this was quite different in the eras of Anne and the Georges. The finest epitaph ever written on a literary man was composed in the eighteenth century, and it was written by one miscellanist about another. And the interesting feature of that epitaph is that so far from trying to conceal the versatility of its subject it draws from that very quality its matchless pointedness and force. "Scarcely any kind of writing did he leave untouched, and he touched nothing that he did not adorn." It is true that the circumstances attending this epitaph are of too special a kind to enable us to generalise from it. It is Johnson writing of Goldsmith. It is the tribute of one of the greatest of English critics to the greatest of English miscellaneous writers. But it is none the less true that it indicates a real parting of the ways between the literary conditions of the eighteenth century and our own. Goldsmith was not alone in having many strings to his bow. Richardson, with his shop behind him, could afford to specialise as an analyser of "the female heart"; Gray, in the seclusion of his rooms at Cambridge, could give months to the polishing of a perfect quatrain. But the professional man of letters, if he were to live at all, had to execute the orders of his book-seller-publisher, conciliate a political patron, and endeavour to win favour with a theatre-manager. The eighteenth century writers were not always born versatile. Versatility was thrust upon them. The rewards of fiction could not be depended on for a living in an age which saw "The Vicar of Wakefield" purchased for sixty pounds—"a sufficient price too," said the kind middleman, Samuel Johnson. Logic bids us always seek for the simplest reasons for apparent phenomena. The versatility of the eighteenth century can easily be traced back to one parent—the old mother of invention.

The eleven qualifications with which we have credited our butt of modern criticism is not an imaginary list. On the contrary, it is only an imperfect attempt to complete Thackeray's classification of the works of Smollett. The eighteenth century was in many ways the most eventful epoch in Scottish history. It witnessed not only a political but a literary Union. It is only with the latter that we are here concerned, and its two outstanding features are the rise of Jacobite literature and the first signs of the Scottish annexation of Fleet Street. The rebellions of '15 and '45 brought calamity to many famous Scottish houses, and their cadets were driven to seek fame as soldiers of fortune in many foreign lands. The descendants of the house of Keith won glory in Germany and Russia. The humbler literary adventurer put his half-crown and his tragedy in his pocket and found his way to Fleet Street. James Thomson did this, as did many another, but there was never a pluckier gentleman-adventurer than Tobias Smollett. Had his fortune permitted it, he would have been a soldier. But his fate made him a man of letters, in which capacity he fought as brave a fight as any that has been recorded. "He fought endless literary battles; and braved and wielded for years the cudgels of controversy. It was a hard and savage fight in those days, and a niggard pay. He was oppressed by illness, age, narrow fortune; but his spirit was still resolute, and his courage steady; the battle over, he could do justice to the enemy with whom he had been so fiercely engaged, and give a not unfriendly grasp to the hand that had mauled him. He is like one of those Scotch cadets, of whom history gives us so many examples, and whom, with a national fidelity, the great Scotch novelist has painted so charmingly. Of gentle birth and narrow means, going out from his northern home to win his fortune in the world, and to fight his way, armed with courage, hunger, and keen wits. His crest is a shattered oak-tree, with green leaves yet springing from it. On his ancient coat-of-arms there is a lion and a horn; this shield of his was battered and dinted in a hundred fights and brawls, through which the Scotchman bore it courageously. You see somehow that he is a gentleman through all his battling and struggling, his poverty, his hard-fought successes, and his defeats."

Tobias George Smollett was born in 1721 at Dalquhorn, Dumbartonshire. His grandfather, Sir James Smollett of Bonhill, was a distinguished advocate, a member of the last Scottish parliament, and one of the Commissioners for the Union. Shortly after the birth of Tobias, his father died, leaving his two sons and one daughter to the care of Sir James. The elder brother entered the army, and had only gained his company when he perished at sea. Tobias Smollett's ambition to follow his brother's career was not gratified, and the boy, after a good education at Dumbarton

From a Drawing by H. M. Brock. **Vice Versa.**

"No! my stars! it's the boy after all!"

(Reproduced from the Sixpenny Edition of "Vice Versa," by kind permission of Messrs. Geo. Newnes, Ltd.)

"In the face of the whole room Tom knelt down to pray."

(Reproduced from the Sixpenny Classics Edition of "Tom Brown's Schooldays," by kind permission of Messrs. Thomas Nelson and Sons.)

Grammar School, proceeded to the University of Glasgow as a student of medicine. There he duly qualified as a medical practitioner, eleven years later receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Marischal College, Aberdeen.

"To see him in his chair looking so old and haggard and queer was rather frightful."

(Reproduced from Eden Phillpotts' "The Human Boy," by kind permission of Messrs. Methuen and Co.)

At the early age of eighteen Smollett set out for London, almost his only capital being his medical qualification and his MS. tragedy, "The Regicide." The tragedy, a feeble production which was published ten years later, was not accepted, and Smollett embarked as surgeon's mate on H.M.S. *Cumberland*, which participated in Vernon's unsuccessful expedition to Carthagena in 1741. Smollett's connection with the navy was short, but it was turned to brilliant account later when he exchanged the scalpel for the pen. After a brief residence in Jamaica, where he left his ship and where he met his future wife, Smollett returned to London in 1744, and set up as surgeon. But in spite of several attempts, first in London and again in Bath, he failed to establish a practice, and from 1748, the year of his first great novel, "Roderick Random," until his death at Leghorn in 1771, Smollett was a "miscellaneous writer," one of the ablest and most dauntless cavaliers who ever trailed a quill in the attractive and harassing and unremunerative service of the literary light brigade.

The last twenty years of Smollett's life present no features of special biographical interest. Every year has its milestone, recording a career of strenuous and indefatigable labour, and on three or more occasions we find not a milestone, but a monument that has proved enduring as any in the history of our literature. Johnson described the eighteenth century author's life in a single line:—

"Toil, envy, want, the patron and the gaol."

With toil Smollett had a life-long acquaintance. The other penalties Smollett escaped by unremitting labours that shortened his life.

The instant success of the first novels of Richardson and Fielding, happening at the very outset of Smollett's career, shaped the course of his literary adventures. Beyond this he owed them comparatively little. For his avowed model was not "Pamela" or "Joseph Andrews," but Le Sage's masterpiece, "Gil Blas." The last is the standard example of the so-called picaresque novel, which is primarily concerned, not with plot or character-analysis, but with the humorous adventures of a single hero (*Spanish*, picaro, a rogue). It might almost be described as the biographical method of fiction as opposed to the more usual dramatic method. In the latter there must be no loose ends. The characters must all be accounted for. But looseness of structure is the very essence of the picaresque romance. Its roguish hero must have no home but an inn. He is a knight of the road, and at every hostel new friends and enemies and adventures await him. Smollett displayed true genius in following Le Sage rather than Fielding. For his skill in construction was not remarkable. On the other hand, he was a master of racy narrative, a brilliant satirist and caricaturist, an adept at topographical description. Untrammelled by the necessities of a plot, he could pause in his story where he liked, introduce a new character where he would. The novel in Richardson's hands was a camera; with Smollett and the picaresque romancers it was a cinematograph.

"Roderick Random" and "Peregrine Pickle" are both brilliant understudies of Le Sage. Perhaps their most wonderful feature is the cleverness with which Smollett utilises every detail of his own experience. His short experience of the navy enabled him to draw immortal types—Hatchway, Pipes, and Trunnion, and in all his greater works it is easy to read that the author was an unsuccessful physician. Comparisons between different novelists are generally futile. Even debating societies have ceased to compare Thackeray and Dickens. But there is undoubtedly a certain parallelism between Thackeray and Dickens, and Fielding and Smollett. Both Dickens and Smollett had a genius for caricature. Both were unconscious disciples of Ben Jonson, who identified humour with eccentricity.

In "Count Fathom" Hazlitt detected some of Smollett's finest prose. But, apart from certain purple patches, it is a tedious book, the too "protracted history of a swindler," and it cannot compare with Fielding's masterpiece of irony, "Jonathan Wild." Nor, we might add, with Thackeray's "Barry Lyndon." The most surprising thing in the life of Smollett is the fact that after thirty years of incessant hackwork—the mere record of which would fill a column—he

produced in the year before his death his greatest work, "Humphrey Clinker." In any list of the six, perhaps the three, best novels in the language "Humphrey Clinker" must needs find a place. It is not only witty in itself, but it inspired the wit of Sheridan and Dickens, and lent brilliance to lesser lights innumerable. "No calculus can integrate the innumerable little impulses" of humour that have been made to vibrate in English fiction by the inspired creator of Matthew and Tabitha Bramble, Humphrey Clinker, Winifred Jenkins, and Lismahago. In one sense it is not surprising that Smollett's masterpiece should have come last. He brought to it not only a mature experience, but what was more important, a natural genius for satire which had become mellowed by adversity and age. We see in "Humphrey Clinker" the work of an experienced veteran. The bitter satire of youth is replaced by the tolerant humour of old age, while Smollett's hand had not lost its cunning. And while experience brought restraint, it did not bring dulness. The novel palpitates with life and wit. Here and there the pungency of the satire reminds us that its author in his heyday was the prince of *beaux sabreurs*.

Smollett's "Travels through France and Italy" was the literary result of a journey in quest of health. Its querulous tone often suggests its origin, but the book abounds in clever and spirited vignettes. For several reasons the book naturally invites comparison with Fielding's "Journal of a Voyage to Lisbon." The latter is the more attractive by virtue of its revelation of its author's larger humanity and humour. Its interest is entirely autobiographical. On the other hand, Smollett's work is an incomparable guide-book. Many of his judgments on the art and the people of the countries he visited bear traces of a caprice and freakishness which can be attributed only to the jaundiced eye of failing health. But Smollett's narrative never lacks vivacity. His pictures of men and manners and places will survive most of the efforts of our specialised modern journalism. In his observations on France and Italy we note the same keenness of vision which, years before, ranked him with Christopher Anstey as the brilliant historian of the "Kingdom of Bath."

Like Fielding, Smollett died abroad, while endeavouring, in 1771, to recuperate from the effects of prolonged and various literary toil. In the English cemeteries at Lisbon and Leghorn respectively are the tombs of the two greatest masters of the English comic romance.

The bitterness of much of Smollett's satire and the undoubted coarseness of much of his writing have unfairly coloured the general conception of his character. He was a hard worker, a redoubtable enemy, and a good friend. The coarseness of his writing was the transcript of experience, but it had no counterpart in his private life. He was, says Scott, "bold, upright, and independent in his own character; stooped to no patron, sued for no favour, but honestly and honourably maintained himself on his literary labours." No novelist has fared better at the hands of his most distinguished successors than has Tobias Smollett. What novel can boast of greater encomiums than "Humphrey Clinker"? Sir Walter Scott calls it "a delightful work, the last, and like music 'sweetest in the close,' the most pleasing of his compositions." To this add Thackeray's verdict:—"The novel of 'Humphrey Clinker' is, I do think, the most laughable story that has ever been written since the goodly art of novel-writing began. Winifred Jenkins and Tabitha Bramble must keep Englishmen on the grin for ages yet to come, and in their letters and the story of their loves there is a perpetual fount of sparkling laughter, as inexhaustible as Bladud's Well."

RANGER.

The following are some suggested texts and reference-books:—

Roderick Random, Humphrey Clinker, Peregrine Pickle, Sir Launcelot Greaves, Count Fathom. 1s. 6d. net each. (Hutchinson.)

Thackeray's English Humourists. 1s. 6d. (Smith, Elder.)

Hazlitt's "English Comic Writers." 5s. (Gibbings.)

The Age of Johnson. By T. Seccombe. 3s. 6d. (Bell.)

Eighteenth Century Literature. By E. Gosse. 6s. (Macmillan.)

The English Novel. By W. Raleigh. 3s. 6d. (Murray.)

From a Drawing by George Cruikshank.
"The Doctor makes a discovery."
(Reproduced from "Frank Fairleigh," by kind permission of Messrs. Geo. Routledge and Co., Ltd.)

From a Drawing by George Cruikshank.
"Fairleigh to the Rescue."
(Reproduced from "Frank Fairleigh," by kind permission of Messrs. Geo. Routledge and Co., Ltd.)

THE "BOOKMAN" PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

MARCH, 1906.

Answers to these competitions (each on a separate sheet bearing the name and the address of the sender) should be forwarded not later than the 15th of the month to

"The Prize Page," THE BOOKMAN, 27, Paternoster Row, E.C.

I.—A PRIZE OF HALF-A-GUINEA is offered for the best quotation from Shakespeare applicable to any review or the name of any author or book appearing in the March number of THE BOOKMAN. Preference will be given to quotations of a humorous nature.

"I say, you fellow, is your name Brown?"

(Reproduced from "Tom Brown's Schooldays," by kind permission of Messrs Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd.)

II.—A PRIZE OF THREE NEW NOVELS of the month is offered for the four best passages from English Literature describing (*a*) a kiss, and (*b*) a blow, respectively.

III.—A PRIZE OF HALF-A-GUINEA is offered for the best John-onian prose version of any familiar nursery rhyme.

IV.—A copy of THE BOOKMAN will be sent *post free* for *twelve months* to the sender of the best suggestion for THE BOOKMAN Prize Competitions. The Editor reserves the right to use any suggestion submitted.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

I.—The PRIZE OF HALF-A-GUINEA for the best Shakespeare quotation has been gained by J. E. S., Queen Margaret College, Glasgow.

THE DRAKESTONE. By OLIVER ONIONS.

"If you have tears, prepare to shed them now."
—*Julius Cæsar*, III., 2, 118.

The following are some interesting quotations suggested :—

THE RECKONING. By R. W. CHAMBERS.

"O Lord, Sir, it were pity you should get your living by Reckoning, Sir."

(F. STRUDWICK, 32, Park Road, Bromley, Kent.)

TO MODERN MAIDENS. By "MODERN MATRON."

"Be as thou wert wont to be."—*M. Night's Dream*, IV., 1.

(F. C. DE PINNER, Shempfield, Essex.)

THE BENEFACTOR. By FORD MADOX HUEFFER.

"Which of you know Ford? He is of substance good."

(Miss B. O. ANDERSON, 11, Lonsdale Road, Scarborough.)

TARIFF WITHOUT TEARS. By HAROLD HARE.

"There shall be in England seven halfpenny loaves sold for a penny."
—*Henry VI.*, II., 4, 2.

(Miss K. HUXLEY, Beaufort House, College Green, Gloucester.)

II.—A PRIZE OF THREE NEW NOVELS of the month, awarded for the best list of twenty-four novels with a distinct topographical interest, each depicting a different locality in Great Britain and Ireland, has been gained by Miss E. BULLOCK, Hillesden, Congleton.

	Book.	Author.	Locality.
1.	Mehalah	Baring-Gould ...	Essex Marshes
2.	Scouring of the White Horse	Thomas Hughes ...	Berkshire
3.	Tess of the d'Urbervilles	Thomas Hardy ...	Wessex
4.	The River	Eden Phillpotts ...	Dartmoor
5.	Armorel of Lyonesse	Walter Besant ...	Scilly Isles and Cornwall
6.	Lorna Doone ...	R. D. Blackmore...	Exmoor
7.	Micah Clarke ...	Conan Doyle ...	Somerset
8.	Boscobel	Harrison Ainsworth	Worcester
9.	Kenilworth	Walter Scott ...	Kenilworth, Warwick
10.	Cranford	Mrs. Gaskell ...	Knutsford
11.	Anna of the Five Towns	Arnold Bennett ...	The Potteries
12.	David Grieve ...	Mrs. H. Ward ...	The Peak District
13.	Shirley	Charlotte Brontë ...	West Riding of Yorks
14.	Aylwin	Watts Dunton ...	Snowdon
15.	The Manxman ...	Hall Caine ...	Isle of Man
16.	The Mill on the Floss	George Eliot ...	Gainsborough
17.	Heart of Midlothian	Walter Scott ...	Edinburgh
18.	The Raiders	S. R. Crockett ...	Galloway
19.	John Splendid ...	Neil Munro ...	Argyllshire
20.	A Haunted Town ...	Ethel Heddle ...	St. Andrews
21.	A Princess of Thule...	William Black ...	Skye
22.	Alec Forbes	G. MacDonald ...	Aberdeenshire
23.	Irish Idylls	Jane Barlow ...	Connaught
24.	The Squireen ...	Shan F. Bullock ...	Ulster

This competition proved the most popular of the month, and many excellent lists were received. Many of the answers were disqualified by their neglect of the conditions expressly stated. A number of candidates assigned several books to one locality. As an illustration of the mistakes arising from want of reading the conditions of the competition, we may mention that one competitor cited novels dealing with Florence, Leyden, Melbourne, and Pompeii.

III.—The PRIZE OF HALF-A-GUINEA offered for the best list of twelve novels, which will best acquaint a foreigner with modern English life and manners, has been gained by A. F. EVANS, East Dene, Bowdon, Cheshire

"The Town Traveller" ...	Gissing ...	London	Commercial Life
"Visits of Elizabeth" ...	E. Glyn ...	...	Smart Society

"The Challinors" ...	Benson ...	... Middle Class Life
"Kipps"	... Wells ...	... Lower Middle Class
"Marcella"... ...	Mrs. H. Ward	... Political Society
"Dodo"	... Benson ...	... Smart Society
"The Hill"... ...	... Vachell ...	... Public School Life
"Yellow Van" ...	... Whiting	... ... Society
"Liza of Lambeth"	... Maugham ...	Lowest Depths of Slum Life
"Mord Emily" ...	... Pett Ridge ...	... ... Factory Life
"Emanuel Burden"	... H. Belloc ...	... Financial World
"No. 5, John Street"	... Whiting ...	... How the Poor Live

Admirable lists were submitted by A. L. M. TAYLOR, Yew Bank, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells; Miss MACKECHNIE, 15, Queen's Gardens, St. Andrews; Miss H. G. HIRST, Ruswarp, Whitby; Miss M. E. HIRST, Whitby; Miss M. M. SADLER, The Uplands, Tamworth, Staffs: Miss GRACE H. CHASE, 3, High View Terrace, West Norwood, S.E.; Miss MABEL HIRD, 2, Colberg Place, Stamford Hill, N.

IV.—A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION for THE BOOKMAN, awarded to the sender of the best suggestion for THE BOOKMAN Prize Competitions, has been gained by Mrs. FRANK ELLIOTT, 11, Blenheim Road, N.W., and Dr. MOFFATT, Dundonald, Ayrshire, whose suggestions form the second and third items in the competitions for next month.

The Battle with the "Pats."

(One of the old original drawings from "Tom Brown's Schooldays," reproduced by kind permission of Messrs. Macmillan and Co., Ltd.)

New Books.

ROBERT GREENE.*

These two volumes of the Plays and Poems of Greene are a handsome addition to a scholarly series. Mr. Churton Collins has done his work well, and, we may safely say, has attained his end of making the edition a final one. Mr. Collins is at home in a task of this kind. He has all the knowledge and diligence of an ideal editor. If he has any failing, it is that he is inclined to parade his learning, and to load his books with superfluous notes. In the case of Greene, however, this fault is more pardonable than the opposite one into which his predecessor Dyce fell, of giving us too little annotation. Dyce furnishes no account of Greene's sources, and is often inaccurate in the text; moreover, so much information has been accumulated since the appearance of his edition as to put it entirely out of date. Grosart has given us no separate edition of Greene's plays and poems, while Dr. Ward has confined his attention to one play. So there was ample room for the present work. For the text, Mr. Collins has relied on the oldest quartos extant, and has strictly adhered to it. Even the spelling is kept. With this rigid conservatism we can find no fault.

The spirit of learned investigation in which Mr. Collins has approached his task is illustrated at once by his elaborate endeavours to settle the question of Greene's birth and parentage. Dyce conjectured that he was born in 1550; Mr. Bullen put the date ten years later. Mr. Collins has practically proved that he was baptized on July 11th, 1558. The question of his parentage is more involved; as Norwich in those days was a veritable Greene-land, no fewer than three Robert Greenes, a grocer, an innkeeper, and a saddler, being known, either of whom might have been the poet's father. When we remember that two of these Roberts kept pace with one another in the production of children, the identification of their respective progeny is puzzling in the extreme. Mr. Collins has unravelled the maze with great patience and perseverance, and concludes that, though it is impossible to speak with certainty, it seems at least probable that the dramatist was the son of the saddler. Another point in connection with Greene's biography—whether he ever took orders—is also discussed at some length. We incline to differ from Mr. Collins, and think that he did, but the matter is of no vital importance.

Of a far wider interest and value are the critical illustrations of Elizabethan literature and society with which Mr. Collins has enriched his notes and introductions. It is natural, perhaps, in justification of his elaborate edition, that he should tend to rate Greene too high as a dramatist. At his worst, Greene appears to us a very bad imitator of Marlowe, as in his romances he is the mere "ape of Euphues." At his best he is the author of only one charming piece, the episode which forms the sub-plot of "Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay." With the exception of that

* "The Plays and Poems of Robert Greene." By J. Churton Collins. 18s. net. (Clarendon Press.)

pastoral scene, and perhaps of the character of Dorothea in "James IV.," he did nothing which was not better done before him. "Alphonsus" and "Orlando Furioso" are ludicrous performances, mere echoes of "Tamburlaine," with none of the passion and poetry of that great play. "A Looking Glass for London" is but a disconnected sermon on various texts, better put into prose by Gosson, by Martin Mar-Prelate, and by Greene himself in his penitent pamphlets. "Friar Bacon" is redeemed by the character of the Fair Maid of Fressingfield, though even here we have to get over the shock of hearing a dairy-maid refer to Phœbus, Semele, Paris, and the tale of Troy. But Peggy, despite her learning, is a beautiful creation, a worthy prototype of the women in "As You Like It," though her descendants far surpass their original: *matre pulchra filia pulchrior*. Yet, because one character does not make a dramatist, as one swallow does not make spring, Mr. Collins exaggerates a little when he says, "We open Greene's comedies, and we are in the world of Shakspere; we are with the sisters of Olivia and Imogen, in the houses of Phebe and Perdita." And, in remarking that "Shakspere owes as much to Greene in Romantic Comedy as he owes to Marlowe in history and tragedy," he forgets Greene's and Shakspere's debt to Lyly.

But important though Greene's dramas may be to the literary student, it is not as a dramatist that Greene is most widely known. To the social historian his "conny-catching" pamphlets are of most importance; Greene is the Dickens of Elizabethan London. By the majority of people he is remembered for his songs. Like most Elizabethans, he could write an exquisite lyric. "Sephestia's Song to her Child" has been made popular by Mr. Palgrave. No less beautiful are "The Shepherd's Wife's Song" and "Menaphon's Eclogue." Greene is always at his best in depicting country life. This poor London rake, the companion of "nips, foysters, connicatchers, crosbyters, lifts, high lawyers, and all the rabble of that unclean generation of vipers," seems to have had a longing for the fields and woods. His songs almost compel us to pardon his last act of vanity, when he asked Mrs. Isam to crown him, when dead, with a garland of bays.

It is interesting to note that Greene, like many of his contemporaries, among them Harvey, his greatest enemy, was seized with the hexameter craze. His attempts in that metre are as barbarous as those of Stanyhurst or Abraham Fraunce.

Mr. Collins has adorned his edition with interesting facsimiles of the title pages of eight quartos, and with a collotype reproduction of a portion of the Alleyn MS. of "Orlando Furioso." R. S. WALLACE.

BIOGRAPHY IN INSTALMENTS.
(GOETHE TO 1788.)*

In Germany Bielschowsky's "Life of Goethe" (published 1895-1904) is now generally acknowledged to be the standard biography. No objection need, perhaps, be taken to this except that, like so many modern biographies, undue space is given to criticism of the author's literary work, and to the description of his times. Biography, criticism, and history welded together in one mass is scarcely ever entirely successful, and the born biographer, like Izaak Walton or Dr. Johnson, never dreams of the combination: "life, work, and times." The ideal of the modern biographer should perhaps be—all the life, as much criticism of the work as is required to show it to be the outcome of the man's personality, and as much reference to the times as is needed to explain the events of the life, and to form a suitable background to the biographical picture.

Bielschowsky has based his book on Goethe's autobiographical writings, and, unlike some of his earlier biographers, expresses his conviction of the "excellence of the poet's memory, the truthfulness of his utterances, and the correctness of his judgments concerning his own past."

The contradictions in Goethe's character make it exceedingly difficult to form a just estimate of the man. Lyrical poet, dramatist, novelist, scientist, critic, statesman, and almost equally great in each of those departments, he was, as Herder said, "a man in every step of his life"; indeed, in many ways he was more, he was *Mensch* and *Uebermensch* combined. Able to soar in the most ethereal regions, he could yet enjoy the good things of this life, and show in their appreciation a fine and discriminating taste. Passionately devoted to his Fatherland, to its winter cold and mystic legends, he was equally happy in the brilliant sunshine and soft air of Italy. Entirely abreast, not to say in advance of his age, in his outlook on life he felt at times so thoroughly antique that he thought he must have experienced a previous existence in the reign of Hadrian. It is to this extraordinary versatility of intellect and mood, based, however, on certain definite purposes which crystallised in middle life, that the world owes the long series of works of art with which Goethe has enriched it.

The German biography is in two volumes. The English (or shall we say American?) translation is to be divided into three volumes, the first of which is now in our hands. There are precedents of distinction for the three-volume biography, but where one will not suffice, two are always better than three.

In this first volume we may read the story of Goethe's life until he was forty. We need not retrace it here. By that time he had written "Werther," "Götz von Berlichingen," and "Egmont"; he had settled as Minister at the Court of Weimar; he had passed through the fire of several love affairs, and had finally knit up his relations with Frau von Stein, "the most remarkable, most important, most enduring that he ever had with any woman." In 1775, when at Strasburg, Zimmermann, the Court physician, had shown him a silhouette of Frau von Stein, and Goethe wrote beneath it, "It would be a glorious sight to see how the world is mirrored in this soul. She sees the world as it is, and yet through the medium of love." The next year he met her, the one woman who seems to have been able to comprehend his enigmatical soul, to understand him in all his variety. The influence of this almost perfect companionship on his heart and mind, and by corollary on his work, can never be over-estimated, and though the clouds collected in the end, the gain to Goethe as man and artist was immense and lasting.

The best piece of literary criticism in this volume is, we take it, the chapter on "Götz." The writer of this notice was lately present at a fine performance of "Götz" in the Schauspielhaus at Berlin, and although the 'prentice hand was clearly recognisable, so was the germ of the perfection that was to come later. At the time of its production not even the masterpieces of Lessing could compare with it in richness, brilliancy, and warmth.

"What a varied crowd of people the poet gathers about us! The imperial knights, the bishops, the lansquenets, the city aldermen, the merchants, the emperor, monks, lawyers, women, boys, children. And how they stand out before us! Who ever drew such men, knights, bishops, women, and boys before? The iron-handed Götz, the man of fidelity, bravery, kindness, and love of liberty, the hero with the soul of a child; and his opposite, the weak Weislingen, to whom liberty is nothing, and enjoyment everything, and who allows himself to be hauled about through life by the favour of princes and women. And again their young doubles: Georg, Götz's fine, healthy servant, the golden boy who cannot await the day when he shall ride forth in coat of mail upon his own horse; and Franz, Weislingen's page, unstable, indulging in sensual pleasures, who cannot await the day when his beautiful lady-love shall listen to his love's desire; and, farther, Olerius, doctor of canonical and civil law, vain-glorious in spite of the limits of his knowledge, servile flatterer of the great; the Bishop of Bamberg, surrounded by women and court fools, devoted wholly to the common selfishness of princes and the common intrigues of tyrants; the drunken, stammering, staring Abbot of Fulda; and contrasted with these, wise, noble Brother Martin, who hates the idleness of monks and is happy that he has seen a man like Götz; the honest, prosy emperor, who, in the midst of the turmoil of affairs, feels very clearly where his true friends stand. And beside this gallery of men the portraits of women: the firm, composed, efficient housewife, Elizabeth; good, gentle, tender, Marie, and the irridescent serpent, the bewitching she-devil Adelheid. Wieland said of them, that the greatest master of character-painting, Shakespeare himself, was nowhere greater than our poet in his portraits of Marie, Elizabeth, and Adelheid."

The translation is very second-rate. It is too literal, and therefore often not clear. Indeed, reference has had to be made in some cases to the original in order to decipher the translator's meaning. Words are sometimes oddly perverted from their real signification in the German tongue, and to

* "The Life of Goethe." By Albert Bielschowsky, Ph.D. Authorised translation from the German by William A. Cooper, A.M., Assistant Professor of German, Stanford University. Three volumes. Volume I., 1749-1788—From Birth to the Return from Italy. Illustrated. 15s. net. (Putnam.)

preserve in English the title nomenclature peculiar to Germany, such as *Travel Director* von Klinkowström, *Master of the Horse* von Stein, *Chamber-musician* Kranz, is ridiculous. The American colloquialisms occasionally jar. It would also be well for would-be translators from the German to remember that the German title *Geheimrat* does not bear the same interpretation as our Privy Councillor, and that *Wäsche* is in most cases better translated by *linen* than by *washing*. But the art of translation, which in the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries ranked so high, has now fallen into disrepute, and scarcely repays those who undertake it, either in glory or in pelf.

But to read about Goethe is a perennial delight, and, with all its faults, this translation is to be welcomed for the sake of those who know not the German tongue. Scarcely anyone lays down a book about Goethe without feeling inclined to echo Wieland's words, written in 1775: "At the first glance I knew him to be a man after my own heart. How I fell in love with him when I sat next him at dinner! Since this morning my soul is as full of Goethe as a dew-drop of the morning sun." ELIZABETH LEE.

THE GREAT TZE-SHI.*

There are books whose virtue lies in their lack of literary quality. Such an one is Miss Carl's account of the Empress Dowager of China, the great Tze-Shi. It betrays no attempt to be graceful, witty, obtrusively entertaining, or drastically instructive. A straightforward description of the personality and surroundings of a remarkable woman and ruler, it succeeds by reason of its avoidance of every grace except simplicity. Not the artistic simplicity of a Defoe, but the honest amateurishness of a writer who depends on the interest of her subject for the attraction of her pages.

Positively there is no humour in the book; and that in itself should be a recommendation to those of us who have lost the art of appreciating the stalwart endeavours of globe-trotters to poke fun at every Chinese feature, from pig-tails to *menus*. The reader sighs, as at a danger safely passed, when Miss Carl remarks without a smile that eighty-five clocks struck the hour in the Imperial Throne Room, and when she refrains from hilarious comment on the fact that everything ordered by the Dowager Empress is made in sixes. Life has few greater consolations than escape from an obvious witticism; and that the great Chinese joke is over-done has been manifest these many days.

But indeed Miss Carl is in no mood to deal irreverently with the Court of the Dowager Empress. The shadow of that compelling lady follows her pen. She would never have written what she has—according to her confession in the introductory chapter—if English and American newspapers, by their misstatement of her experiences, had not compelled her to an explanation. To write or speak of the great Tze-Shi, it seems, is contrary to Chinese etiquette, and even favourable comment will be "no palliation from the Chinese standpoint." That may be so, yet one fails to see how any human being can extract matter of offence from Miss Carl's eulogies. She has no criticism to offer. She praises without ecstasy, but without stint. Nor is her modified rapture surprising. For she went to the Chinese Court, as anybody who had conceived an impression of the Dowager Empress from current report might have gone, prepared to meet, if not a cruel and tyrannical old lady, at least a ruler well aware of her power, and accustomed to use it with a frowning face. What she actually found was a hostess of vast and unvarying kindness, graceful in form and charming in manner, thoughtful and considerate, cultured and domesticated, a lover of flowers, birds, and all gentle things. Only once or twice during several weeks was her temper disturbed, and then so slightly as hardly to deserve mention. The first occasion was when a favourite dog took an inconsiderate liking to Miss Carl. Which proved merely that the Dowager Empress does not rise altogether superior to natural feminine jealousy. Another of her recorded frowns was still more justifiable. A gardener, called to explain some change in the laying out of new flower-beds, expressed himself in very bad Chinese. All the Empress said was: "I can't stand any more of that language." A French Academician would not have been so tolerant of the misuse of words!

In one respect—and one only—did Miss Carl find her heroine unsatisfactory. The purpose for which this intrepid American lady presented herself at the Court was to paint the Dowager Empress's portrait for the St. Louis Exposition. She expected some trouble, though introduced by the United States Minister to Peking. The Empress might give her but a single sitting. Two sittings seemed likely to represent the summit of her hopes. But not only was she made welcome, and invited to celebrations generally forbidden to the foreigner: the sittings actually grew from two to many. The sitter, however, took such interest in the painting that she would never allow Miss Carl to work at it save in her presence. The consequence was that after an hour's labour the canvas and brushes had to be laid aside, her Majesty deciding that both subject and artist needed rest. Thereupon, while her thoughts dwelt fondly on the portrait, Miss Carl was obliged to attend the Empress on delightful excursions by land and water, and during long hours in the theatre. Nevertheless, by the exercise of patience and industry (when industry was allowed), she completed no fewer than four portraits, the first ever painted of the "most fascinating personality" it has ever been Miss Carl's "good fortune to study at such close range."

The Emperor did not please Miss Carl so well, though she says nothing against him. He seemed to her "the ideal of what one would imagine an Oriental potentate to be"—a young man with a "Sphinx-like quality in his smile"—rather bored—yet "the look of eternal patience in the half-veiled regard of those large eyes seems to show that he will yet try to accomplish China's salvation—that he is but waiting his opportunity."

The Dowager Empress, as sketched by Miss Carl, is a miracle of amiability. Her Majesty evidently laid herself out to please this particular guest, either because she took a fancy to her, or because she was American, or because she painted handsome portraits. We cannot, therefore, allow the book to revolutionise our notions of the Chinese Imperial nature. But we can read it with a good deal of real pleasure. THOMAS LLOYD.

* "With the Empress Dowager of China." By Katharine A. Carl. Illustrated by the Author and with Photographs. 10s. 6d. net. (Eveleigh Nash.)

DAYS WITH VELASQUEZ.*

In "Days with Velasquez" we have a continuation of Mr. Hind's adventures among pictures. These adventures cover a period of fifteen years, "for my interest in Velasquez," he writes, "dates from the acquisition by the Government in 1890 of the three Longford Castle pictures, which included one fine Velasquez." Before 1890 Reynolds, Wilkie, John Phillip, and a dozen other British painters, not to mention two-thirds of the great French artists of the nineteenth century, had declared the Spanish master supreme. But these were merely painters, and their opinions had not yet received the blessing of the art critic. That final sign of grace did not come till eleven years later, so that in 1890 Mr. Hind was still a pioneer. "When in 1901," he writes, "the *Edinburgh Review* appeared with an article headed 'Velasquez,' reviewing the works of Carl Justi, R. A. M. Stevenson, Sir Walter Armstrong, and A. de Beruete, it was realised that Velasquez had come into his kingdom." Surely Mr. Hind does not go far enough. Velasquez did not really come into his kingdom until four years later, when his pictures had been reproduced by the three-colour process, and could be bought at a penny each on picture postcards.

It is a mistake for us to be too modest. We are the great British Democracy, and posterity is our handmaid. Unhappy indeed are those Old Masters who are forgotten by Us. The stately and reticent figure of Velasquez sadly paced among the shades of Acheron, till Carl Justi, R. A. M. Stevenson, Sir Walter Armstrong, and A. de Beruete megaphoned their message of encouragement. A smile lit up the grave lips of the Master when he heard of the *Edinburgh Review*. He positively chuckled when he saw these eight reproductions done for Mr. Hind's book by Adam and Charles Black "in the colours of the original paintings."

Along the railroad of popular criticism and reproduction we can now take trips to the interesting spots in art, and

* "Days with Velasquez." By C. Lewis Hind. 7s. 6d. net. (A. and C. Black.)

what more admirable cicerone could we secure for Velasquez than Mr. Hind? He is cultured and eloquent. All the words of wisdom uttered by painters and critics are at his finger-ends, and he has a sincere and infectious enthusiasm for his subject. Moreover, he has an intimate personal acquaintance with all the Velasquez pictures outside St. Petersburg. As for his eloquence, one has but to turn to Chapter VII., in which he describes how he talked down an artist in the Green Park. "I paused for a moment to regain my breath," he says. "My companion made a remark, not quite intelligible. . . . I brought the ferrule of my stick heavily to the ground." It might have been on the artist's head.

If Velasquez has come into his own kingdom, so too has Mr. Hind. No one has secured a firmer hold over the affections of those who desire a nodding acquaintance with the arts. Although one cannot but smile at the occasional exuberance of his personality, it bursts forth in such a way that one finds only a little more human interest in what he describes. After all, the personally conducted tour is the most successful form of education that has yet been invented.

J. M. Gibbon.

GALLIENNE-CUM-HAFIZ.*

Wine, women, and song—that is the theme of Hafiz; and surely there never was a jollier or a more poetical old reprobate, Omar Khayyam not excepted.

"Go to, thou puritan! the gods above
Ordained this wine for us, but not for thee;
Drunkards we are by a divine decree,
Yea, by the special privilege of heaven
Foredoomed to drink and foreordained forgiven."

It is dangerous doctrine, this; yet these sceptical epicureans of the East, who lived between the eleventh and fifteenth centuries, find more than an echo in the hearts of those who react against the ways of our own generation, strenuous and self-seeking on behalf of its soul or its pocket, or both, and tormented by a *cui bono* and *quo vadis* which will not be stifled. On reading Mr. Le Gallienne's interesting preface, one can easily understand why his rendering is so free as to be practically original poetry suggested by Hafiz. The divan is a series of ghazels or odes, arranged in a certain alphabetical order; and these odes, in their turn, consist of couplets, related to one another not by subject-matter, but by one rhyme throughout, and sometimes also by the same phrase at the end of each couplet. Such a form has been compared with a string of pearls. "Where we ask a thread of meaning," says Mr. Le Gallienne, "the Persian demands only a thread of metre." Accordingly, he has picked out of the whole divan the less incoherent odes, has supplied links, phrases and fancies of his own, and has chosen his own lyrical forms, in order to tone down the (to us) extreme artificiality of the ghazel, and to make the English version "really—if not literally—Hafiz." His rendering is eminently readable. Neatness is perhaps its most striking quality. Nothing indeed could be much neater than conceits such as:—

"Hafiz, the metal of thy soul is base:
Stamp not upon it the Beloved's face."

The first verse of the very first ode forms an excellent example of Mr. Le Gallienne's skill, of an elusive feeling gracefully sung.

"Saki, for God's love, come and fill my glass;
Wine for a breaking heart, O Saki, bring!
For this strange love which seemed at first, alas!
So simple and so innocent a thing,
How difficult, how difficult it is!
Because the night-wind kissed the scented curl
On the white brow of a capricious girl,
And, passing, gave me half the stolen kiss,
Who would have thought one's heart could bleed and break
For such a very little thing as this?
Wine, Saki, wine—red wine, for pity's sake!"

As might be expected, however, he is at his best with the lighter, prettier odes. "A caravan from China comes" is daintily done. When the Persian becomes more philosophical, the English immediately becomes more pedestrian. Those who want to know what Hafiz really did say must go to Colonel Clarke or Mr. John Payne. Others, who can sympathise with Hafiz' point of view, and have a liking for Mr. Le Gallienne's verse, will find much to give them pleasure in the present rendering.

"Hafiz is drunk in many different ways—
Drunk with the Infinite, drunk with the Divine,
With music drunk, and many a lovely face;
Also, he's drunk—with wine."

Stephen Reynolds.

* "Odes from the Divan of Hafiz." Freely rendered from literal translations, by Richard Le Gallienne. 7s. 6d. net. (Duckworth and Co.)

"R. L. S." ON STYLE.*

Of the recent Stevenson reissues this volume is the most coherent and uniform, and the essays, though written at different periods of Stevenson's work, show a real unity of spirit and purpose. There was nothing Stevenson enjoyed more than writing or talking about his art, and it is therefore somewhat surprising to find the first essay opening with the words "There is nothing more disenchanting to man than to be shown the springs and mechanism of any art." Probably the explanation lies in the fact that the essay in question is severely technical. The very title, "On Some Technical Elements of Style in Literature," has an academic ring unusual in Stevenson's work. Much of it is admirable, for no one had a more sensitive ear for the subtle music of rhythmical phrase. Stevenson, in common with some other writers on style, seems to overlook the fact that the perfectly balanced sentence must appeal to the eye as well as to the ear. In these days when reading aloud, "*l'art de la lecture*," is a forgotten art, the elaborate intricacies of the sentence are really seen rather than heard. Perhaps Stevenson means to include this in his reference to the "supersensual ear." But in an essay of such delicate minuteness it is perhaps dangerous to suggest any further refinement of criticism.

The portion of the essay which is likely to provoke most criticism is that which is concerned with what for the sake of convenience may be called the P. F. V. theory. Put briefly, Stevenson's thesis is that in all the passages in literature which are recognised as nearest perfection the effect is traceable to the recurrence of certain consonants, the commonest combination being P. F. V. Stevenson takes several instances, notably a magnificent prose sentence from Milton, in which this combination or some variation of it recurs. The theory is interesting and suggestive, but it is open to two serious objections. In the first place Stevenson is basing his argument on a very small number of instances. It is a dangerous method, as dangerous in its way as Matthew Arnold's somewhat similar selection of certain isolated passages as the touchstone of poetry. Secondly, the theory ignores the influence of the vowel sounds, which it is reasonable to suppose play at least as large a part as the magic letters P. F. V. Probably Stevensonians would agree that the most haunting lines which came from that magic pen are those of his flawless Requiem. The theory breaks down when applied to the second stanza:

"This be the verse you grave for me:
Here he lies where he longed to be;
Home is the sailor, home from sea,
And the hunter home from the hill."

Apart from the absence of both P. and F., surely the haunting pathos of the lines is to be traced partly to the influence of the alliteration (to which Stevenson gives full recognition), but even more to the vowel sounds and the recurrence of the long O? Poe in a famous essay has told the world how the Raven might have been written, and some seriously minded folk took him at his word. It is to be hoped that no one will be led to believe that the secret of Stevenson's art was a close adherence to the P. F. V. or any other theory of style. If a knowledge of rules or theories based on an analytic study of great works of art could make any man an artist, professors of harmony would no longer be notorious for the dulness of their compositions.

Of the remaining essays in the book, that on "The Morality of the Profession of Letters" breathes that spirit of lofty sincerity and high purpose which animated all Stevenson's literary work. It is pleasant to note that another of the essays, the charmingly autobiographical paper on "Books which have Influenced me," first appeared in the pages of the *British Weekly*. No man ever wrote more delightfully about himself than Stevenson. But what is more

* "The Art of Writing." By R. L. Stevenson. 6s. (Chatto and Windus.)

important than anything else is Stevenson's attitude to life and letters (the two could hardly be separated in Stevenson's mind) and to the young aspirant for literary fame nothing could be more salutary and heartening than this little book.

L. G. Brock.

THE VOYAGE OF THE DISCOVERY.*

It is impossible to deny to the Polar voyager and discoverer the fullest measure of our admiration for his pluck, determination, perseverance, and patient endurance of almost incredible hardships and privations, even if we are constitutionally unable to share in the enthusiasm which leads men to volunteer for arctic and antarctic voyages "in the cause of science," or for other reasons.

The two stout volumes which I have been asked to review are a pleasantly and modestly written record of the expedition to the South Polar regions, which has achieved the honour (for the present) of "furthest South."

The volumes are profusely illustrated with excellent photographs, and some admirable coloured views by Dr. Wilson, which enable us—far better than any descriptions could do—to realise the dismal grandeur and "splendid desolation" of the antarctic continent and islands visited by the expedition.

Captain Scott (the leader of the expedition, and the author of the book) tells us in his preface that it appeared to him "the first object in writing an account of a Polar voyage was the guidance of future voyagers; the first duty of the writer was to his successors." And looked upon from this point of view, the two bulky volumes are no doubt amply justified; though it is quite possible that the general reader, who does not propose to be one of Captain Scott's successors, might wish the narrative condensed into one volume. This remark, however, must not be taken to indicate any lack of appreciation or interest on the part of the present writer, who (although he does not propose to be a successor) has read every page of the work without skipping a line, and greatly enjoyed it, especially while sitting before a good fire in a comfortable armchair.

After giving a brief historical sketch of previous antarctic voyages, Captain Scott tells us of the numerous difficulties and discouragements which attended the efforts of the Royal Geographical Society to fit out and finance the expedition. Difficulties which were only surmounted by the indefatigable energy and dogged perseverance of Sir Clements Markham, seconded by the generous subscriptions of private individuals, learned societies, and a Government grant; but even then the expedition seemed to hang fire, until Mr. Llewellyn Longstaff came down with the magnificent donation of £25,000; after which it was all plain sailing, so far as finance was concerned, and as an acknowledgment of this munificent gift in the cause of science, the most Southern land seen—a splendid peak, over 10,000 feet high—has been named "Mount Longstaff," thus immortalising the generous donor.

Perhaps one of the most remarkable points about the expedition, in view of the hardships the men endured, and the dangers which beset them—more particularly on the sledging expeditions—was the fact that only one life was lost during the two years spent within the antarctic circle, though there were undoubtedly some very narrow escapes, or "close calls," as the British bluejacket expressed it.

One of these occurred during the Western sledging expedition on the high plateau of Victoria land, when Captain Scott, with two companions, explored that inhospitable continent, which he thus describes:—"The interior of Victoria land must be considered the most desolate region in the world. There is none other that is at once so barren, so deserted, so piercingly cold, so wind-swept, or so fearsomely monotonous."

Our Home in Winter.

(Reproduced from the original photograph appearing in "The Voyage of the 'Discovery,'" by kind permission of Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co.)

It was whilst returning from his exploration of the interior of this desolate continent that Captain Scott and one of his companions suddenly disappeared down a crevass, and found themselves dangling by their sledge harness, with a bottomless pit yawning beneath them. Their escape reads almost like a miracle, and was mainly due to the presence of mind of able seaman Lashly, who remained on top, and held on doggedly to the sledge from which his companions were suspended. The story of the incident is simply but graphically told: it is unfortunately too long to quote in full, and it would be unfair to mutilate it.

On reaching the surface, Captain Scott says:—"I reached the sledge itself, and flung myself panting on the snow beyond. Lashly said, 'Thank God'! and it was perhaps then that I realised that his position had been the worst of all." With two on top and one below there was little difficulty in rescuing able seaman Evans from his uncomfortable position; and on reaching the open air this phlegmatic sailor laconically remarked, "Well, I'm blowed!" Though as a matter of fact he was frost-bitten.

The "Discovery's" winter quarters were at the southern point of Ross Island, in latitude 77 deg. 50 min. 30 secs. S., and here she remained fast bound in the ice for two winters. The summer (our winter) of 1902-3 being an exceptionally

Watering Ship.

(Reproduced from the original photograph appearing in "The Voyage of the 'Discovery,'" by kind permission of Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co.)

* "The Voyage of the 'Discovery.'" By Captain Robert F. Scott, C.V.O., R.N. 2 vols. 42s. net. (Smith, Elder and Co.)

cold one, which failed to break up the ice in McMurdo Sound, and thus admit of her escape.

Captain Scott reached his "furthest South," with his sledge party of men and dogs, on December 30th, 1902, a week after midsummer's day. The latitude was 82 deg. 16 min. 33 sec. S.; and from this point he describes the view as one of magnificent grandeur. Away to the South, as far as the eye could reach, rose range upon range of lofty mountains, upon which the eye of man had never previously rested, and which he thus had the privilege of naming—an ample reward, no doubt, for all the hardships and privations endured by the enthusiastic explorer. One of these mountains, a splendid triple peak with a height of 15,000 feet (nearly as high as Mont Blanc), he named Mount Markham, "after the father of the expedition." Another peak, still further South, with an estimated height of 10,350 feet, was named Mount Longstaff, after the gentleman whose generous donation of £25,000 had given the great impetus which induced other subscriptions, and rendered the expedition possible.

Needless to say, the expedition was amply provided with the very best advice from numerous arctic and antarctic predecessors; but good advice and personal experience are two quite different matters, as Captain Scott found to his cost; and he has frequently to lament his own lack of polar experience, and also that of his companions, almost all of whom were quite new to the business, and had to buy their knowledge with many a rub, many a hard knock, and much extra work. This was specially the case with regard to the outfit, the management, and all the details of the sledging parties, though the explorers had the wisdom to make short trial trips during the autumn, while there was still enough daylight for the purpose, in order to gain experience for the longer and more important expeditions of the spring and summer. And it was well that they did so, for we read:—

"Our autumn sledging was at an end, and left me with much food for thought. In one way or another each journey had been a failure; we had little or nothing to show for our labours. The errors were patent; food, clothing, everything was wrong, the whole system was bad. It was clear that there would have to be a thorough reorganisation before the spring, and it was well to think that before us lay a long winter in which this might be effected.

"I have described these early troubles in some detail, partly because they show how much we learnt by our failures, and partly because it is necessary to realise that sledging is not such an easy matter as might be imagined.

"That we were eventually able to make long and successful sledge journeys is no doubt due to the mistakes which we made and to the experience which we gained during the first barren attempts of this autumn."

The above is a fair specimen of the earnest but modest and simple style in which Captain Scott has written the records of the expedition, for the leadership of which he was selected while still but a lieutenant in the navy. That the selection was a wise one was amply proved by results. The proof of the pudding was in the eating.

The selection of his subordinates seems to have been largely left to Captain Scott's discretion; and he selected youth. He tells us that one of his officers was thirty-seven, and one forty (both of the scientific branch), but the average age of all the remainder was a little over twenty-four. And he adds:—"After my experience of their services, I have little doubt as to the value of youth for Polar work." The rank and file of the expedition were also in the prime of their youth; and with but very few exceptions they justified their selection, and behaved with that cheerful endurance of hardship, loyalty to their officers, and devotion to duty which we may proudly claim to be characteristic of the British seaman. They were all men-of-war's men, mostly selected from the Channel squadron.

Of the scientific results of the expedition Captain Scott does not tell us much. It was no part of his object to do so. But when we remember that not only delicate and continuous observations of magnetism were taken, ice-movement and oceanography carefully studied, but that geography, biology, zoology, geology, and meteorology all came in for a goodly share of attention by competent observers, we may feel sure that science was justified of her children, and—to quote the well-known phrase—"much has been added to the sum of human knowledge."

The main object of the expedition was undoubtedly the pursuit of science; but a special committee appointed by the Royal Geographical Society reported that—"Apart from the valuable scientific results of an antarctic expedition, great importance must be attached to the excellent effect that all such undertakings, in which our country has been prominent, have invariably had upon the navy by maintaining the spirit of enterprise."

Some may think that the learned Society stepped a little bit outside its own border in making this remark; but it was wise in its generation, for, without doubt, it was this "spirit of enterprise" which supplied the steam to the scientific machine, making the expedition not only possible, but crowning it with success. C. C. PENROSE FITZGERALD.

WORDSWORTH'S "GUIDE TO THE LAKES."*

This is a very pleasing little edition of one of the few guide-books that shot beyond their goals. Originally written as an accompaniment to a series of pictures, it was enlarged, rewritten, and improved, as it deserved. Nearly a hundred years after its first publication it is able to give us, who love the North, a strange choking in the throat, as we read it, in a town, in the South. For Wordsworth loved the lakes, as a poet loves, understanding, as well as admiring. Many have tried to write of the lakes, but few have been able to do more than catalogue their beauties. Wordsworth does that, but he does it so that we feel a personality behind. As Mr. de Sélincourt points out in his well-informed and gracefully-written Introduction, he had not two styles for verse and prose. He was Wordsworth always, so that the book is rich with passages of poetry in prose. All who know or have known, either the Lake Country or Wordsworth's poetry, will be grateful for this admirable edition of a book which elucidates and clarifies the beauties of these two things whose spirits are the same. It is very usefully annotated with references to the earlier editions, being itself a reprint of the fifth, and, as well as the Guide, Mr. de Sélincourt has reprinted as Appendices, two letters written by Wordsworth to the *Morning Post*, protesting against the proposed Kendal-Windermere Railway, alas, in vain. His talk of "The molestation of cheap trains pouring out their hundreds at a time along the margin of Windermere," reads pathetically now, when every summer sees shouting crowds, continually reinforced, jostling together down the hill from the station to the once peaceful lake; but there, we are becoming sentimental, and sentiment is the ruin of reviewing.

CHARING CROSS AND A DREAM.†

If this book has the faults of the Englishman's treatise on the Camel, it has its virtues. As a store of facts it will be valuable to students of London for a long time to come. No one else is likely to make a bigger collection of the associations of Charing Cross and its neighbourhood. To the general reader Mr. Macmichael's pages offer plenty of entertainment of the strictly dip and dip again kind. From this mass of material he will receive an impression of London's incalculable human memories. In one of his books the late Sir Henry M. Stanley describes the floor of a tropical forest on which leaves and whole trees have fallen for centuries, mouldering back undisturbed into the soil to form a deep humus of dead matter, which yet is not wholly dead since it is a relic of life. London is like that, and it is not too much to say that every square furlong of its central streets would furnish a volume of notes as considerable as this.

Mr. Macmichael might, had he chosen, have erected a more coherent theme. He might have taken Charing Cross as the background of public action; that is to say, have written a literary pageant-history of England, as seen from a window at Charing Cross by a Methuselah. That has not been his ambition. He makes place, not time, his basis, and thus an eloquent promiscuity replaces an artistic narrative. Considered as a topographical survey or lexicon, the book shows a few omissions and inadequacies, but in the

* "Wordsworth's Guide to the Lakes." Edited by Ernest de Sélincourt. 2s., 6d. net. (Henry Frowde.)

† "The Story of Charing Cross and Its Immediate Neighbourhood." By J. Holden Macmichael. 7s. 6d. net. (Chatto and Windus.)

face of such profusion one states this far less with regard to the author's responsibility than to the inevitable incompleteness of a collection.

The step from the general to the particular is difficult: one can but dip into a lucky-bag of the curious. What singular little memoirs Mr. Macmichael's industry has shaken to the surface! I own that I like the useless little tags of useful lives: useless only until they are used. They all have their place somewhere in man's story, where, however, they are less curious and suggestive than in the fortuitous croppings up of a topographical survey. For instance, I may know nothing about Clay, "who first applied papier-mâché to tea-trays," yet I am interested to learn that he became great in tea-trays in a house which stood at the south-eastern corner of Bedford Street. There—such was the taste and ticklement of the public — he amassed £80,000 by providing our great-grandmothers and Mr. Dendy Sadler's housekeepers with these articles, even employing Royal Academicians to embellish them. Thus Bedford Street is a fact the more interesting. And one is often in Bedford Street.

There, the other day, I picked up one or two sketches by a genius who is thrice named by Mr. Macmichael, Richard Wilson, R.A., the father of English landscape, disbursing a sum which consorted only too well with Wilson's own poverty. (The incredulous connoisseur may smile if he chooses, but I happen to know.) It is easy to turn to Mr. Macmichael's index, and thence to drop on Wilson. I find him, as was to be expected, in St. Martin's Lane, again in Covent Garden, and, coincidentally, in Bedford Street itself, at his favourite house of call, the "Constitution" tavern. I wish that in a lucky wandering I might alight on an object which probably became firewood long before I was born—Wilson's apparatus for keeping his paints and brushes. It was a model of part of the Piazza in Covent Garden, where he lived. The rustic work of the piers was provided with drawers, and the openings of the arches held pencils and oil bottles. Exhibited to-day in Room XX. of the National Gallery, this apparatus might direct more eyes to the works of a glorious painter, whose fame has been too much overshadowed by Turner's.

Mr. Macmichael is a very careful transcriber, and he always gives his authority. In books of topography it is impossible to indicate authorities too freely. The loose way in which these are dropped or misquoted has made the London topographer's path thorny indeed. Thus Diprose, in his history of St. Clement Danes parish, quotes John Thomas Smith as saying that Charles Dibdin commenced his entertainments in Paterson's auction room in Essex Street, Strand. This statement is repeated in Thornbury's "Haunted London." What Smith actually says is that Dibdin occupied Paterson's later auction rooms in Covent Garden. Mr. Macmichael quotes the statement correctly. But I think he rather over-quotes Smith when he says that Paterson, *when he came to King Street, Covent Garden*, was the first auctioneer who sold books singly, in lots. I have little doubt that he had begun this practice long before, in Essex Street, where his fame as an auctioneer was established. This is quite consistent with the words of Smith, who knew him only at Covent Garden, being then a boy. Mr. Macmichael may, of course, be right in this minute point, but I suspect he is yielding momentarily to that curious bias in favour of the locality under consideration which the most careful topographer has to resist.

St. Martin's Lane in 1820.

(Reproduced from "The Story of Charing Cross," by kind permission of Messrs. Chatto and Windus.)

I pass from a thousand details to the idea which, for me, hovers around these industrious pages. Their excellence suggests a greater thing. More and more one sees the need — Utopian though its realisation may be — of a topographical dictionary of London, carrying some sort of official weight, and supplying the largest number of sifted facts: a great lexicon, as free from error as a syndicate of competent students and a proper system of checks can make it. It would be a retrospective directory of London. It would carry out, on a scale bearing some proportion to London's amazing munimental wealth, the work so admirably begun, on an individual scale, by Peter Cunningham and his able expander, Mr. Wheatley. In short, it would be London's inventory of her human and moral possessions. Limitation of the area surveyed would be highly necessary, but within that boundary, whatever it might be, the work should be as thorough as endeavour and enthusiasm can make it. Sir Walter Besant's "Survey" seems to have been planned on some such lines, but the result, so far as it exists, is quite different. Were it possible to obtain support for such a work, there ought to be no lack of workers. When one considers what could be done by a staff composed of students like—well, it would be easy to name thirty really competent topographers without a pause of the pen—the dream seems good enough to be true. In that company Mr. Macmichael would take a high place, and it is from such industry as his that the work must ultimately spring. WILFRED WHITTEN.

PREHISTORIC STORIES.*

There is a story of a grand meeting of the fairies, when poets who had made too free with elfin things, and grown-up people who had told children that fairies did not exist, and professors with dictionaries of folklore sticking out of their pockets were brought for trial before the fairy king. The folklorist I remember had a particularly unfortunate time. Little blue pixies pulled his boots off and pricked him with long thorns, and the tiny cobbler fairies emptied their tankards of ale down his throat, and their snuff-boxes on his moustache, so that he sneezed and choked, and choked and sneezed again. The fairies did not like him, because he was scientific. I wonder what they would say to Mr. Macculloch.

His preface, though it is addressed to us, is really an apology for meddling with the people of the ancient stories, in matters concerning their pedigrees. But he is so charming about the business, that one feels that Snow-White, Puss-in-Boots, and the rest of them, can view him with no more animosity than the faint irritation with which we regard one from the College of Heralds, as a man who busies himself with immaterial detail. Mr. Macculloch is so polite to them that we can imagine that, in his presence, Jack the Giant Killer would take off that little cap of his, and the Werwolf submit to be patted. I think the fairy council would let him off with a free pardon.

And that is, in its way, a triumph. For few pleasures are more often cruel than those of the folklorist, who discusses ancient tales. The glamour of the stories is as delicate as the bloom on a butterfly's wings, and as easily brushed away by scientific hands. But Mr. Macculloch has gone about his work so gently, that even when he has arranged the tales into chapters under general headings, twenty stories jostling together, they yet preserve their magic. He is one of the few scientific folklorists who can be wise as men and joyous as children; one of the very few who can tell stories as well as write about them.

His book is simple and sensibly ordered. There are two preliminary chapters on the antiquity of the tales, and on some of their incidents, upholding the theory that the stories reflect the manners and customs of their times. "The world of our folk tales existed long ago," he says, "it exists still among modern savages." Remembering the tales that Miss Colman Smith brought from Jamaica, and tells exactly as they are told by the Jamaicans, of Anansi, that black, fat, shiny spider who outwitted all his neighbours in turn, and in the end outwitted himself, it is easy to agree with him. In these tales deceit is the highest of virtues, and the ideals of primitive man are beautifully reflected in the low cunning of the beasts. The Jamaican stories are not mentioned by Mr. Macculloch, though he tells a story of Anansi that is found among the Ashantis.

After his two theoretical essays follows a series of fourteen chapters collecting all manner of variants of tales, that can be classified under such headings as "The Water of Life," "Friendly Animals," or "Beast Marriages." His industry has been prodigious. He quotes stories of African, Afghan, Arab, Australian, Basque, Basuto, Bohemian, Breton, Catalan, Celtic, Chilian, Chinese, Corsican, Czech, Danish, Egyptian, English, Eskimo, Esthonian, Finnish, French, Gaelic, German, Greek, Gipsy, Hindu, Hottentot, and many other origins, before we get further than H in the alphabetical list of his sources.

He concludes with a long chapter on the origin and transmission of stories, most interesting, and full of suggestion. It is only when he strikes far back into unknown times, for the actual origin of tale telling, that we can quarrel with him. In the beginning of his book he says: "Stories owe their birth in great part to the universal human desire to listen to a story. 'Tell me a story,' cries the child, and in the childhood of the race was heard the same cry." Yes; but not until stories had been invented. Does a child who has never heard one, ask its mother for a story? The cry did not call forth the story. Stories suggested the cry.

It is not difficult to see how stories must have come into being. I fancy they had a twofold origin, in the Warning Example and the Embroidered Exploit. Mr. Prehistoric, coming home tired after a long day of hunting and being hunted, would recount his adventures over the family fire. And he would exaggerate. There is the Embroidered Exploit, the origin of the romance of chivalry, many of the stories of the gods, and most of the sensational fiction of the present day. Little Prehistorics, told by Mammas Prehistoric not to play with the family fire would ask, "Why not?" and be told how someone did play with the fire, and got his fuzzy hair burnt, and his eyelashes singed, so that he could not look in the face of the sun, and his fingers scorched cruelly. There is the Warning Example. From these two forms all story-telling can be traced.

But this is, after all, a petty difference. Mr. Macculloch's is an excellent book. It is one of the few works on folklore that do not take the savour from the tales; the literary artist in search of material for fairy stories will find it a treasury nobly crammed, and ripe for extensive rifling.

ARTHUR RANSOME.

* "The Childhood of Fiction." By J. A. Macculloch. 12s. (John Murray.)

CONFESSIONS OF AN OPTIMIST.*

As the author of this entertaining autobiography is the grandson of the statesman who was Prime Minister during the Crimean War, it should not be difficult to identify him, especially as he is quite frank in giving many particulars of his parentage, friendships, and career. Born in an English rectory, and bred in Ireland, he was eventually sent to Eton, where he had a lively time, with more fun than education in his days. He got into the school choir, though, "as a matter of fact, I never knew one note from another, and do not to this day recognise 'God Save the King' unless people stand up." The Franco-Prussian war interrupted his subsequent studies at Bonn University, after which he secured a post in the British Museum, although, like most of his fellow-officials, he had to learn his trade after his appointment. Being in a hurry to make money, he then drifted into law, joined a publishing firm, became secretary of various societies, religious and artistic, and settled down, so far as his inveterate Bohemianism would permit him, into domesticity. Why he dubs his life a failure, he explains with unabashed simplicity. It has not succeeded in bringing him a fortune. His work has usually been congenial but seldom remunerative. Yet this must be taken with some qualifications, for he has been able to live a pretty comfortable life, and evidently to settle his family with considerable success in the navy and elsewhere. Indeed, apart from the money-standard, as he admits, he has had a good time. He has had a good memory, good health, a wide circle of friends, opportunities of travel, and an unusual variety of interests, ranging from Italian art to Conservative politics. Above all, he can tell a good story, and the cheery, chaffing way in which he recounts his experiences makes the pages of his autobiography uncommonly diverting. His father seems to have been an excellent, scholarly parish priest. But he sometimes said the wrong thing. On one occasion, for example, "he was visiting one of his flock and inquired of the lady of the house, a working woman, how the baby was. 'Oh, it is quite well, sir, thank you; but it do suffer terrible from the wind.' My father was a chilly mortal; so, pulling his Inverness cape round him—it was a cold March day—he said, 'Oh, so do I!' and left the unfortunate woman rather puzzled." The author himself was at one time fond of private theatricals. He describes how one company of players were coached by an old Frenchman whose instructions about kissing one's hand to an audience were—"As eef you vos pullin' a 'air from your mouvth!" This was in the days when the Surrey Theatre had placards six feet high, requesting "Ladies and gentlemen not to SPIT or throw nuts into the pit." Another of his tales is *ben trovato* in these days. He recalls how, during a political crisis, the Archbishop of Canterbury drew up a form of prayer, which was to be used in the dioceses of the church, but which Bishop Magee dismissed with the remark, "I really do not see why I should be the means of offering up inaccurate political information to the Almighty." There are some sensible pages upon Alpine climbing, and a vivid description of Italian earthquakes. During one of the latter, the hotel guests at San Remo in 1887 were hurrying outside the hotel to the garden, after a shock. One man's wife

* "Fifty Years of Failure." The Confessions of an Optimist. (Smith, Elder and Co.)

" said to her husband, ' Dan, come out of the hotel directly; it's unsafe even for a dog.' Then, turning to me, ' Mr. X., would you go up to my room and get me my jacket.' " Some shrewd things are also said upon Germany, whose suspicion of our country the writer regrets keenly. He is fond of the German people. " For real kindness of heart and for readiness to make small sacrifices to help others, the German is far superior to the Frenchman." Many similar observations and reflections upon men and things, from the London County Council to music and Free Trade, prevent this from degenerating into a mere collection of personal or humorous incidents, and we lay down the volume with real gratitude to the writer for a pleasant, well-informed ramble through the last fifty years. He does not need his readers' sympathy, and, despite his occasional touches of self-pity, it is very doubtful if he really wants it.

OF IMPORTANCE IN HIS DAY.*

The name of Richard Ford is unfamiliar in the ears of the present generation, but, as Mr. Prothero reminds us, " sixty years ago few men were more widely known in the world of art, letters, and society, than the author of ' The Handbook for Spain.' " He was " a connoisseur of engravings, an admirable judge of painting, the interpreter to his country of the genius of Velasquez; he had no rival as an amateur artist." He was a brilliant talker, a wit whose sense of humour saved him from posing as one, and a polished man of the world, who was also a student and lover of literature. He contributed critical and miscellaneous articles to the *Quarterly* and the *Edinburgh*, and his " Handbook for Spain " created something of a sensation; it went rapidly into a second edition, and later into a third, and received enthusiastic encomiums from men who had intimate knowledge of that country—such men as Prescott, Borrow, Washington Irving, and Lockhart, who wrote of it that it was " the work of a most superior workman—master of more tools than almost anyone in these days pretends to handle."

One naturally assumes that the letters of such an admirable Crichton must be, at least, interesting and of some literary value, and the selection Mr. Prothero has included in this volume will not disappoint any who open it in that faith. Mr. Prothero has limited this collection almost entirely to the letters written by Ford to Henry Unwin Addington, " who in 1830 was Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Court of Madrid." The first half of the letters were written during a lengthy sojourn in Spain, and give many vivid and entertaining pictures of life as it was lived there through a period of violent political unrest; the remaining half date from after his return to England, mainly whilst he was making a home for himself at Exeter, laying out his garden, interesting himself in art and literature, and, by-and-by, settling down to work, more or less seriously, and more or less intermittently, as an author and critic. To Ford belongs the credit of having discovered Borrow; he was the first to recognise the unique merit of the " Gypsies in Spain," which was submitted to his judgment by " the hesitating Murray "; it was published on his recommendation, and he contributed a critical article on it to the *British and Foreign Review*. Borrow presently wrote to tell him he had nearly completed his " Bible in Spain," and thereon Ford writes to Murray: " I have given him much advice—to avoid Spanish history and *poetry* like Prussic acid; to stick to himself, to his biography and queer adventures. . I have some thoughts of asking him down here with his MS. and pruning it a little for him." The tone is perhaps a shade too patronising, but the advice is excellent, and Ford's appreciation of Borrow was as shrewd as it was generous. " Borrow will lay you golden eggs," he writes again to Murray, " and hatch them after the ways of Egypt; put salt on his tail and secure him in your coop, and beware how any poacher coaxes him with ' raisins ' or reasons out of the Albemarle preserve." If he was not quite so happy in his recognition of " Boz," it was probably because he was not greatly in sympathy with the class of people Dickens most delighted in.

Of the vices and virtues of his own literary style, both in these letters and in his deliberate work, Ford has himself given a concise and pretty accurate analysis. As was his custom, he submitted the MS. of his " Handbook " to the critical consideration of his friend Addington, and writes in reply to Addington's sweeping censures: " Your letter has knocked the breath out of my body, the ink out of my pen, the pen out of my hand. You have settled my *cacoethes*. . . . . You cut out my wit! Head cuts out my poetry! and I shall cut the concern. What is to be done? I can't write like Cook; I really wish to take in a very wide haul, and have very great materials. Religion must come in, or the Arts must go out. Politics and poetry I care nothing for. Wit (if there is any)—it is not wit, but a trick of stringing words together, and I cannot write a common letter or say anything without falling into these sort of absurdities. It would not be my book if it was not so. I have a horror of *flippancy*. That is what I fear most, and am most likely to run into. There you may carbonado me, and I will kiss the rod. . . . I have not the presumption to suppose my opinion to be worth yours in many important subjects. On some I think it is—the lighter and more frivolous. I am a humble-minded author, as Head will tell you, very docile and not at all irritable. . . . Cut out all that is flippant, personal or offensive. Remember you have only the rough sketch. . . . I wish to write an amusing, instructive, and, more than all, a gentlemanly book." The ideal is not a bad one, but I can't make up my mind that it is good enough.

Richard Ford, 1840.

(Reproduced from " The Letters of Richard Ford," by kind permission of Mr. John Murray.)

Some of the letters are trivial, except that they help the reader to a more vivid realisation of the man who wrote them; but for the most part they are full of literary allusions, and, particularly those from Spain, of brilliant or amusing sidelights on contemporary history. The brief links of biography and explanation with which Mr. Prothero connects and annotates the letters are models of how such work should be done. The book will be a distinct acquisition to the library; it is admirably edited, and contains several excellent portraits and illustrations.

A. ST. JOHN ADCOCK.

* " The Letters of Richard Ford." Edited by Rowland E. Prothero, M.V.O. 10s. 6d. net. (Murray.)

LYRISTS OF THE RESTORATION.*

The very daintiest of the dainty little books in fashion, this is bound in vellum, with pale leather tying strings, and encased in a box dressed in Italian patterned paper of

* " Lyrists of the Restoration." Edited by John and Constance Masefield. The Chapbooks. 3s. 6d. net. (E. Grant Richards.)

delicate tone. The costume of the little volume is quite characteristic of its elaborate contents. The lyrists of the Restoration, says the Introduction, "did not write great poetry, because theirs were not great natures." But, in intricate device of verse, in elegant fancy, and courtly phrase, they are without equal. One tires of their intricacy of ornamentation, though it is as charming as any other convention, for a little time, just as one tires of flipping these pale leather strings out of the way when one wants to read the book. Perhaps, though, the leather ribbons are cunningly designed as an aid to our enjoyment of the verse. Our minds have to grow hungry for Restoration poetry before we will go through the preliminary ceremonial of pulling the book out of its pretty case, and unravelling its finicking strings. And, when we are in quite the proper mood, which the toleration of the string business will ensure, one of these lyrics gives us a pleasure so different from that we win from modern or more elderly poetry, that it delights us, like a taste from strange fruit. We tie the little volume up again, and replace it in its patterned case, with a feeling that we have come from a quaint old shop full of exotic things, ornaments and delicate china, very fragile, not always beautiful, but ever interesting. And, if we have read Mr. Masefield's fierce introduction, an assault whose justification we cannot deny, on the outlook of the period, finely and courageously written, we feel that we have not only seen a china-shop, but also seen a bull in it—a very sturdy bull, pleasant too, but still, a bull.

Novel Notes.

THE RED SEAL. By Morice Gerard. 6s. (Cassell.)

There are few things in history more perversely fascinating than the piteously ineffectual personality of the unfortunate Monmouth, or more wonderful than the pathetically unselfish love that he inspired in his followers; but in "The Red Seal" Mr. Morice Gerard uses the Duke and his rebellion only as a pervading influence and a picturesque background. The story is of Lieutenant Reginald Harbin, a staunch adherent of King James' and of his pretty cousin Katherine, who does not learn that she loves him until he has served and unwittingly won the heart of a beautiful lady who came to grief in a coach accident, and later would have been robbed and possibly murdered if Reginald had not been at hand to protect her. Judge Jeffreys, that vengeful fury who raged in the wake of the rebellion, sees Katherine and, attracted more by her wealth than by her loveliness, seeks to marry her; and, failing, finds sufficient reason to have her cast into prison, where he leaves her no alternative between giving him her hand and going to the scaffold. It is all, of course, strongly melodramatic, but it is good melodrama; it is packed with surprises and thrilling incidents, and written with ripe skill and such an alert imagination that it rivets the reader's attention at the start and nowhere loses hold upon it.

THE SCHOLAR'S DAUGHTER. By Beatrice Harraden. 6s. (Methuen.)

If you have not read "Ships that Pass in the Night," you will not be disappointed in "The Scholar's Daughter." It is a clever little domestic drama, written with a zest and skill that keep it thoroughly alive in every page; but it has little of the charm of style, the delicate cunning in characterisation, the indefinable sense of atmosphere that give the earlier novel its unique place in our regard. The scholar of the new book, Professor Grant, is a pre-occupied, self-centred, elderly man who is living in a lonely country house and engaged in the compilation of a colossal dictionary. He has been busy on it for years, with three erudite, middle-aged secretaries assisting him, and three quaint, ancient men-servants to cook and keep house for them all. When the story opens, Geraldine, the professor's daughter, is expected home from school for good, and he is hoping that she will adopt the dictionary as a career and settle down seriously to work on it. But the three secretaries shake their heads over this hope, and directly she arrives she justifies them in doing so. The professor, bringing a learned friend home with him, finds she has arrived in his absence and carried the three secretaries, her "dear book-worms," as she calls them, off on a fishing excursion, and the sombre study is littered with frivolous little feminine vanities. From this point, or rather from an hour or so later, with the arrival of a handsome and unexpected young stranger with a message from Australia, the drama develops rapidly; it is all enacted within a matter of three days, and involves the beginning of a delightfully idyllic love romance for Geraldine, the recalling of a tragedy that, unknown to his daughter, had overshadowed the professor's life, and a pathetic and deftly-staged reunion that he had never dreamt any possibility could ever bring about. It is a novel in which artifice takes the place of art, and dramatic situations are made to subserve the purposes of theatrical effect; but if we do not thus judge Miss Harraden by her own high standards, we are bound to acknowledge that it is a capital story, written with easy ability in a pleasant vein that should assure a very wide popularity for it.

NO. 101. By Wymond Carey. 6s. (Blackwood.)

This excellent historical novel is distinguished from most contemporary efforts in the same kind by one remarkable feature—it bears unmistakable evidence of real historical scholarship. In it history is not drawn upon for an occasional background. History is the very warp and woof of the story, and the story is an enlightened and illuminating and most attractive commentary of history. Mr. Carey, having discovered in the British Museum that the British Government in the first half of the eighteenth century had in their pay a mysterious French informer known only as "No. 101," has made this interesting fact the basis of a brilliant romance. The informer is a woman, the beautiful daughter of a French noble, whose honour and fortune and happiness had fallen a prey to the wantonness of Louis XIV. In her passion for revenge, the mysterious "No. 101" developed the genius of a consummate actress, and she moves through the story under an almost bewildering number of disguises. Love and battle and adventure follow in quick succession in this admirable romance, the writing of which is as good as its history is sound. Of the Court of Versailles we have a really brilliant picture and criticism. The real heroine of the novel is Madame de Pompadour, of which great adventuress we have a picture, in which we see a very clever transformation of history into fiction. Louis himself and representative members of his dissolute court are also delineated with exceptional skill and knowledge. Mr. Carey has already given us the best account in fiction of Charles of Sweden. "No. 101" should increase his reputation. The historical basis is as good as before, and to this Mr. Carey has now brought an accession of skill in the drawing of character and the weaving of a plot.

MRS. ERRICKER'S REPUTATION. By Thomas Cobb. 6s. (Alston Rivers.)

In Mrs. Erricker the author has drawn a character of undoubted humour and charm and originality. Early in the days of her widowhood, Mrs. Erricker discovered that her husband had had a past. Her idol shattered, she proceeds in a very innocent and light-hearted way to enjoy herself, much to the horror of Mr. Erricker's mother and other adoring and hum-drum relatives, from whom she chivalrously conceals her husband's feet of clay. Circumstances conspire against Mrs. Erricker's reputation. She has two lovers, of whom one is too cautious to put his fate to the touch, while the more adventurous is like to lose it all from a horrid doubt that Mrs. Erricker is willing to marry him for his cheque book. In the long run it is only Mr. Erricker's reputation that is lost. His widow, after a plucky fight with misfortune, wins all along the line. The dull relatives capitulate and apologise. The doubting lover receives an unmerited reward by Mrs. Erricker's consent to change her surname. The title of the novel scarcely does it justice, for Mrs. Erricker was not indifferent to her reputation, as it might suggest. This is a very clever and entertaining story, every character in which is actual and alive.

THE GAMBLER. By Katherine Cecil Thurston. 6s. (Hutchinson.)

With her first novel Mrs. Thurston had the good fortune to achieve a great popularity and to discover her true *métier*. Of this discovery she has once again made excellent use in this dramatic and arresting story. Married at eighteen to a man of the Casaubon type, who was old enough to be

her. grandfather, Clodagh Asshlin inherited from her unfortunate Irish father much of his spendthrift recklessness and mania for play. Left a young and wealthy widow she was drawn into a society consisting chiefly of disreputable members of the peerage, and was attracted to "bridge" as a moth to the flame. Mrs. Thurston, more concerned to write a pleasing and exciting than a probable story, makes her heroine only singe her wings. Within a few lines of the end of the book, Clodagh is discovered on the point of throwing herself over a precipice. But, in the nick of time, her old and faithful servant comes waving a reprieve, in the shape of a telegram, from her repentant lover—a young gentleman with a somewhat dreadful resemblance to Sir Charles Grandison. The opening chapters describing Clodagh's unhappy girlhood are the best thing Mrs. Thurston has written. They have pathos and many touches of skilful characterisation. The rest of the story is frankly theatrical, and the characters, with scarcely an exception, are but types—very black villains and very white plaster saints. But with Mrs. Thurston the story is everything, and she displays her usual power of rapid and engrossing narrative. We could have wished that a book with an Irish heroine had displayed a gleam of humour. Lord Dorchurst might well have been allowed a few epigrams with which to screen his nastiness. The only humour in the book we found in the gallant effort of the illustrator to lessen the disparity of age between "January and May."

YOLANDA. By Charles Major. 6s. (Macmillan.)

Take a penniless but handsome count, turned soldier of fortune, and a beautiful princess disguised as a bourgeoise, add lovemaking, jousting and treachery to taste (as the cookery books say), and you have all the ingredients of a fascinating romance of the sword and cloak order. Mr. Major, to continue the metaphor, has used a familiar recipe, but he has shown himself such an admirable cook that we can only hope that he will repeat the dish again. To begin with, he is a born story-teller, direct, simple, and lucid; every word tells, and one incident follows naturally upon another. He writes in an honest, straightforward way, without "padding," or any attempt at fine writing. His heroine is a winsome, tricksy sprite, with a will of her own, and wits as well. His hero is irresistibly handsome, matchless in all knightly accomplishments, and a very good fellow to boot. Perhaps he is a trifle slow of wit, but that is a not uncommon accompaniment of manly beauty, and after all it is not good for heroes to know too much. If Max had guessed what anyone but a hero would have guessed, things might have turned out very differently. Happily for him, he had the gift of overlooking the obvious, and so everything turned out for the best in this best of all possible worlds—which is only another way of saying what is the barest truth, that Mr. Major has written a splendid story.

THE BEAUTY-SHOP. By Daniel Woodroffe. 6s. (T. Werner Laurie.)

This novel deals with a phase of modern fashionable life in London which cannot be described as elevating, and which does not afford much scope to any writers beyond those who care to chronicle unhealthy society frivolities. The title is taken from a Bond Street shop, where massage, cosmetics, and the various arts of the feminine fowler are practised for the sake of empty and more or less corrupt women. The brother of the proprietrix is the hero of the tale, if hero is not too fine a word to be wasted on a clever blackmailer of foreign extraction. He marries an impecunious girl, Myrtle, who soon discovers his real character, and the curtain is rather abruptly dropped, upon his detection and her horror. The one healthy element in the book is furnished by the rustics of Borth, who are evidently introduced as a sort of foil to the metropolitan wasps and butterflies, though even the rustics are smitten with an odd craze for dancing. But the construction of the book is not strong. The curate's function is promising, but it is left undeveloped, and the author has contented himself with writing a brisk account of artificial London life; which is probably all that readers of such fiction will demand.

THE LADY NOGGS, PEERESS. By Edgar Jepson. With Illustrations. 6s. (Fisher Unwin.)

"Has the Prime Minister a niece?" That, undoubtedly, will be our question in the future, when Prime Ministers are committing deeds which, in our opinion, are inexplicable and mistaken. Mr. Edgar Jepson has sketched for us with his pen some quite everyday pictures in the home-life of Lord Errington, Prime Minister. In Lord Errington's home-life, Lady Felicia Grandison (Lady Noggs to her familiars) is undeniably an influence, and such an influence that even his political enemies might allow that to Lord Errington much might be forgiven. Lady Noggs is one of those modern productions, "a picture child," minus the "picture" nature. She has a Sir Joshua Reynolds face, and a fiendish instinct for getting into mischief and brazening it out. Her nature is as truthful and loyal as her pastors and masters could wish it to be, but her methods of applying those virtues to real life are not as comfortable as might be expected. She drives her uncle to what, in his nature, amounts to distraction; she drives her governess and her uncle's secretary finally into each other's arms; she tampers with diplomacy, and the better condition of the poor; she routs a Russian spy, and she argues with members of the Cabinet on the matter of their duties. The chronicle of her doings is a continuous flicker of fun throughout fifteen chapters; but the actual endurance of them was unsettling to a politician. For the future, as we said before, when things in Parliament distress us, we shall sigh with tolerance, and murmur "cherchez la nièce."

THE SMITHS OF SURBITON. By Keble Howard. With Illustrations by Frank Reynolds, R.I. 6s. (Chapman and Hall.)

Like "The Red House" and "A Duet," this comedy without a plot belongs to the class of modern domestic fiction; its world is that of a young couple, who marry, and of their experiences with servants, relatives, and children. Probably many more than the readers of the weekly magazine, in which the tale originally appeared, will be glad to follow the fortunes or misfortunes of Ralph and Enid. The illustrations are very happy, and they set off excellently the bright, interesting chronicle of the Surbiton household. Mr. Howard has produced a clean, fresh, and attractive story. Lovers, it is said, are always interesting to the world. Their subsequent matrimonial career is not always so piquant, in fiction at any rate. A certain amount of dexterity and humour is required, if an author is to succeed in recording more than commonplace details without deviating into meretricious expedients. Mr. Howard has succeeded in this attempt. He is observant, and he has humour. The pages in which he describes the mother-in-law, the baby, and the servants, are especially delightful, and the book may be heartily commended as a capital specimen of its class.

A SWORD OF THE OLD FRONTIER. By Randall Parrish. 6s. (Putnam.)

The year of the yarn is 1763, and we have recounted for us the swashbuckling, Stanley-Weyman-like career of the Chevalier Raoul de Coubert, who did many marvellous and entertaining things. The exciting features of his life are told *con spirito*, and every now and again we have the brilliant flash of the rapier and sword. Too much, perhaps, of that sort of bloodthirsty work. Still, the author does the thing with zest, and who can say but that his romantic characters would not have acted in precisely the way that he makes them act. No notice of the volume would be adequate without any reference to the author's esteemed "good red wine," or to the noble, disinterested rescues (several) of beautiful English girls in distress. The tale ends with the marriage of the French hero with the beautiful English heroine, and the interest of the reader is ingeniously sustained towards this obvious conclusion. There are four full-page, excellent coloured drawings by Mr. F. C. Yohn, who has thoroughly entered into the brisk spirit of the book, a fault of which is that it is far too long. Chapter after chapter could have been compressed with no loss to the artistic merit of the work.

THE BLUE PETER. By Morley Roberts. 6s. (Eveleigh Nash.)

For a good sea yarn Mr. Morley Roberts is the man. He knows the ways of the sailor, and also his psychology. It may be that he is sometimes a little too extravagant, that he strains a little for his effect, but the fun he makes is ample condonation. The present collection of sea stories has hardly a dull moment, and the best of them, "The Situation of Captain Brogger," may challenge comparison with the immortal "Brogglesmith." Captain Brogger was

a bad seaman and a bad ship-master, so one of his crew sought to be even with him. The Captain was accordingly Shanghaied and reported drowned; a new master was found to take the vessel to sea, and the old commander, helpless with drugs and liquor, clean shaven and stained with walnut juice, was put on board as a new hand. There he tasted the bitterness of life before the mast in his own ship, and the comic incident culminates in his being sent over the side to paint the ship blue, as mourning for the supposed dead captain, *i.e.*, himself. The first story, "The Extra Hands of the Nemesis," is not unlike this, as it relates how some wicked and skin-flint owners were made to work their own passage on their own ship. But funny though it is, it does not tell so naturally and so credibly as "Captain Brogger." One does not look to Mr. Morley Roberts for subtleties of colouring. He goes at his canvas with a big brush and lays about him gallantly, one might almost say top-gallantly. But he gets his effect, and we turn from the pictures with the feeling of clean salt spray upon our face.

THE AMBUSH OF YOUNG DAYS. By Rosamond Langbridge. 6s. (Duckworth.)

Mrs. Hanrahan, the central figure in this admirable story, is a kind of Irish Mrs. Todgers. She is a humorous slattern with a kind heart and a weakness for the "craythur." To her "Select Private Temperance Hotel" various lodgers come and go—some of them, to Mrs. Hanrahan's indignation, neglecting the formality of settling the bill. Of the latter kind were Mr. Cahill and his family, who managed to elude the landlady by sending her out for green plover and seakale. The entire Cahill episode is told with great humour, and the genuineness of the Irish atmosphere is convincing. The rest of the novel relates the love-story of poor Myrtle Hanrahan, and the sorrowful history of the little dressmaker, Miss O'Shaughnessy. There is pathos in the book as well as humour, and the author by a variety of devices succeeds in holding our attention to the end. Both in manner and in matter the book is full of originality.

THE ARROW OF THE NORTH. By R. H. Foster. 6s. (John Long.)

In this novel Mr. Foster again makes the scene Northumberland, in which, to employ a vulgarism, he has established "a corner." It is an area of which he has intimate knowledge, and his pictures of the Northumberland scene in the fifteenth century have title to respect. There are men in the tale who fight with bows and arrows, and the present-day Mr. Foster manages to bring to one a sense of the enthusiasm that pervaded the Northumbrians in their long-ago and far-forgotten fights against their traditional enemies the Scots. The hero of the tale is one Ralph Hammerton, who has desperate adventures, and falls in love with a Scotch girl, Margaret Hume, daughter of Sir David Hume, whom he marries in the end, after a reconciliatory scene. It is a "stirring" novel, which resembles in many respects the other well-known Northumbrian romances from the same pen. It is a book free from "cheap sentiment," and although it may not be a "great" work, it is pre-eminently readable. Mr. Foster has the strength of the born story-teller, and in the weaving of a tale he never pays more attention to the way he has to tell a thing than to what he has to tell.

A MOUNTAIN EUROPA. By John Fox, Jun. 3s. 6d. (Constable.)

Mr. Fox has a simple tale to tell, and he tells it with charming simplicity and directness. There is practically no "plot"; the story concerns itself wholly with the love of an educated American man for a girl of the mountains. It is true that there is a "rival"—a man of the mountains—but he is conciliated with much ease, when he is assured by the hero that it is his intention to marry the girl, and the introduction of the "rival" is more important for the sketch that is provided of him, than for the part that he plays in the development of the story. The mountain man is well drawn, with few but telling lines; and so is the heroine—though one doubts that in the life she led she could have remained as ingenuous as the author would have us believe. There is a drunkard of a father, a man sought after by the police for murder, and in the end he fires a shot that kills not the object of his aim, but his own daughter. The scene is well done; to have shrieked would have been the easiest thing in the world; but the facile path has been evaded by Mr. Fox, who gives a description that is pathetic and restrained. Admirable as are his sketches of character, they have formidable rivals in his paintings of scenery. These paintings convey much; they convey the atmosphere of the American scene and give one the breath of the forests. Having said so much, one may be pardoned for a note of complaint. The book, as will be seen, is published in this country; yet one finds on the first few pages such spellings as these: "plows," "humor," and "bowlder." With the growing popularity of American fiction in this country, there is a growing tendency on the part of the London publishers to give us the American spelling of well-known English words. That the books are "set-up" in America is, of course, the explanation, but it is no excuse.

A SON OF THE PEOPLE. By the Baroness Orczy. 6s. (Greening.)

In this romance of the Hungarian plains the Baroness Orczy writes with ease and grace, and her peasant characters are no mere pasteboard figures. They are charged with life. Most important of them is one Andras, "a son of the soil," the son of a small tenant farmer in the domain of the "big man" of the neighbourhood. The "big man" falls into financial difficulties, and Andras, aided by cash left to him by a miser father, comes to the rescue, claiming as his reward the hand of the "big man's" daughter. He marries the lady, but they have a "scene" on the marriage day, and separate (at the end of Part II.), to be reconciled in the last chapter. From the "scene" to the close the Baroness keeps the story going with much verve, and the pride of the peasant and the pride of the "big man" are set forth with much vigour in a book that is vivid, but by no means sensational. It is a work quite worthy of the author of "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and "By the Gods Beloved."

The Bookman's Table.

VIKINGS OF THE PACIFIC. By A. C. Laut. 8s. 6d. net. (Macmillan.)

Mr. A. C. Laut has followed up his "Pathfinders of the West" by a volume dealing with the Eastward tide of adventure, which led fur-hunters from Europe across Siberia to the wild Northern Pacific; and he has included the stories of Drake, Cook, Robert Gray, the discoverer of the Columbia River, John Ledyard, and Vancouver. In bringing together these narratives, valuable service has been done for the general reader, who, without access to Russian and Washingtonian archives, would have no opportunity of gaining a clear idea of the developments which led to Russian rule during a period of the eighteenth century from Alaska to California. The account of Russian movement East begins with the terrible story of Vitus Bering and Chirikoff, who left St. Petersburg in 1733 to begin in 1741 what Mr. Laut regards as the greatest naval expedition known to the world. Viewed from the point of view of continual hardships, this is perhaps a just estimate. Its concrete results were the charting of long reaches of Japan and the Arctic coast of Asia, and the discovery of the wonder-world of Alaska and the habitat of the sea-beaver or sea-otter in the kelp-beds of the Aleutian Islands. And just as the beaver led French voyagers westward from Quebec to the Rocky Mountains, southwards to Texas and northward to the Athabasca, so the hunt of sea-otter, with its priceless skin, led to the exploration of the North Pacific coast. The story of this hunt, with its constant dangers from the surf, the gales, and the severe winters, a life which called forth a resource much akin to that of primitive man, is here told in language which, at times mediocre, is often raised to poetic dignity by the mere recital of the facts of Arctic nature. We have word-pictures of the Aleut swathed in furs sleeping securely through the storm in his sand pit; the myriads of birds crowding each other for footroom, the noise of whose wings is like a great wind; the walrus snorting through the grey mist like a continual fog-horn; the velvet sward, grass waist high, poppy fields, and anemones of Oonalaska. The book tells, too, the grim stories of the outlaw hunters and their cruel treatment of the Indians, the exploits of Benyowski, the private

who hoisted the Polish flag on the Pacific, the siege and slaughter of Sitka, and the brave career of Baranof. It is an adventure book which should prove of great interest to boys; but it is to be regretted that the publishers did not insist upon more suitable illustrations.

THE THREE DORSET CAPTAINS AT TRAFALGAR: Thomas Masterman Hardy, Charles Bullen, Henry Digby. By A. M. Broadley and R. G. Bartelot, M.A. 15s. net. (John Murray.)

Everything to do with Nelson is bound to interest Englishmen, and a book of which the main subject is the career of "Nelson's Hardy," the captain of the *Victory* at Trafalgar, must surely find many readers and a welcome everywhere. The present book is the result of a recent discovery—in connection with the Trafalgar Centenary celebration—of a large number of private letters written by Captain Hardy at various periods of his life, for the most part to relatives and friends on shore. They incidentally disclose for the naval student much that is of high interest in regard to man-o'-war life at the time of the Napoleonic War; and also at the same time they set forth plainly what is of wider interest—the terms of close, familiar, and affectionate regard that ever existed between Captain Hardy, personally, and "Old Nelson," as he fondly speaks of his "dear Lord." Further, indeed, the letters make plain for all the world the justice of Nelson's extremely high estimate of Hardy as an ideal flag-captain, an officer of the highest professional skill and ability and a man of consummate tact and kindliness of heart—in a word, a gentleman of the best type. The two other Trafalgar officers selected for inclusion in the book on the score of their being like Captain Hardy, Dorset born and bred, are Captain Charles Bullen, flag-captain to the Earl of Northesk on the *Britannia*, the hero during a long career at sea of many hard fights and gallant exploits; and Captain the Hon. Henry Digby, who commanded the *Africa* at Trafalgar, and made, with the smallest line of battleships in the battle, a display, single-handed, in the midst of the fray, for downright audacity second to none. The book is admirably and amply illustrated, for the most part from portraits and family pictures; and contains also a number of very interesting facsimiles of letters and documents of special historic value.

TWENTY YEARS IN PARIS. By Robert H. Sherard. 16s. net. (Hutchinson.)

Twenty years in Paris, in the very heart of literary, musical, and artistic Paris! What a vista opens up at these words! It would puzzle even the dullest of men to write a dull book after twenty years' intercourse with the intellectual leaders of Paris, and Mr. Sherard is far from being a dull man. On the contrary, he is a born observer, with the journalistic *flair*: partly in consequence of his position as correspondent for various newspapers, but more perhaps by instinct, he always seems to have been in the heart of the movement. Mr. Sherard went everywhere and knew everyone. Famous names crowd his pages, statesmen and journalists, actors and artists, prima donnas and poets. Mr. Sherard knew Victor Hugo and was the intimate friend of Daudet and Zola. He enjoyed long conversations with Boulanger when all Paris was struggling for a glimpse of the political meteor. The *Quartier* was familiar to him from end to end, and he has much that is interesting to tell about the Bohemian *littérateurs*, a race now as obsolete as the dodo. Official Paris appears to have had a ready welcome for this brilliant correspondent, and he was a frequent guest of President Carnot, to say nothing of meeting Casimir-Perier, Fallières and Loubet. A book of this kind is naturally a trifle "scrappy." It is, frankly, gossip, but gossip of the best sort, the gossip of a singularly well-informed and keen student of human nature. The only fault in a fascinating volume is that Mr. Sherard's personal friendship in certain cases has led him to devote a disproportionate amount of space to a few men, such as Ernest Dowson, which their ability and achievements did not deserve.

LOUIS XIV. AND LA GRANDE MADEMOISELLE. By Arvède Barine. Authorised English Version. 12s. 6d. (Putnam.)

In "The Youth of La Grande Mademoiselle" we saw her rise to the position of a popular heroine, comrade in arms of Condé: in the present volume we see her fall to old age—and ridicule. Regarded half-pityingly, but with an undercurrent of ridicule, the Grande Mademoiselle ceased to be interesting to the fickle French public. The fall from favour was very definite. The heroine of the Fronde was effaced in the eyes of contemporaries, and remained only a ridiculous old maid, whose woes amused the gallery. "I would rather spend my life in solitude," she wrote, "than restrain in any way my proud humour." And, banished more than once from the Court, she did spend some years of her life in comparative solitude, and had spirit enough, after the first blow, to feign a liking for it. The same "proud humour" which caused her to help Condé and the Frondeurs in the hope of forcing Louis XIV. into marriage with herself, afterwards led her—though she dearly wished to be a queen—into defying the King by refusing a political marriage with that paralysed, piggish little prince, Alphonse VI. of Portugal. The same generous impetuosity which made her turn the cannon of the Bastille upon the King's troops, also led her to rouse all France by attempting a mésalliance with the Comte de Lauzun, "the most insolent little man born in the century." Late in her life she took love seriously, and until there was no further possibility of a public ceremonial befitting her rank, she scorned the secret marriage or liaison with Lauzun, which was frequently suggested, and would, moreover, have been winked at. She was an anachronism at the polygamous Court of her cousin. When Louis XIV., in furtherance of his brilliant despotism, reduced the nobles to servility and women to subjection, Mademoiselle de Montpensier remained outstanding, a survival from more heroic, more active, days. "I do not care to mix myself with her impetuosities," said tactful Mme. de Sévigné. The history of such a woman, in such a period, could hardly fail to be fascinating. Mme. Arvède Barine has drawn freely on the memoirs and archives of the time. Without being gossipy, she has used with skill the detailed method of presentation, the more human aspect of history; so that, though the reader nowhere finds very complete, uninterrupted pictures of personages or series of events, he will nevertheless end the book with a lively idea of the Grande Mademoiselle and the chief actors in her tragic comedy. It is therefore the greater pity that such a careful and entertaining work should be hampered in English by so many gallicisms that we have been forced in places to retranslate the so-called English version literally into French, in order to recognise the idiom and find out what Mme. Barine really meant. The index, on the other hand, is good, and the thirty illustrations are for the most part excellent.

Notes on New Books.

MESSRS. WARD, LOCK AND CO.

Bright comedy is what Mr. Archibald C. Gunter gives us in **A Prince in the Garret** (6s.); comedy which includes a very young runaway bride, who finds herself in the boarding-house kept by her late schoolmistress, and is commanded to return to schoolroom frocks and a pigtail. The comedy includes also a charming American, about whom buzz gentlemen of all nations in a mysterious manner at the same boarding-house. And in this same house lives the prince in the garret, a prince who is Molière, writer of plays. The whole book goes with a light-hearted vivacity; from beginning to end it entertains, and we can well imagine it even more entertaining if dramatised and acted by the right persons.

MR. T. N. FOULIS.

A book of practical value at all times, and of especial value during the coming months, is Mr. R. P. Brotherston's **Book of Cut Flowers** (3s. 6d. net), in which he offers what, we confess, is much-needed advice in the matters of gathering, arranging, packing, and reviving cut flowers. A general trend towards better taste has led people of late years instinctively to improve upon the old method of crushing a tightly-bound hotch-potch of blossoms into one vase; but there is still much to be learned in the matter of choosing the suitable vessel, suitable as to colour and to shape, for the flower we wish to place in water, giving due consideration not only to its blossom and its form, but also to its foliage and its stem. Mr. Brotherston incidentally gives us quite a literary pot-pourri of flower talk and flower allusion; but his main aim is to be practical; and the length of life of the various species, their adaptability to our several requirements, their scent, hardihood, capability for decorative purposes, and needs as travellers are exhaustively explained. If there is one fault to be found in this *vade-mecum* for flower-lovers, it is that the author, in referring to flowers, writes of them too often by their Latin names alone. Wild horses would not, of course, induce any of us, ourselves, to admit that we are not

always able to recognise the flower referred to, but we think of "those others," and we are sorry that they should be handicapped in their use of this attractive volume, which, with its hints and illustrations, is a treasure in any household.

ELKIN MATHEWS.

If the pen is mightier than the sword, we know that blunt indifference is mightier than both. The modern poet sings into a busy, careless world, and the critic of the modern poet has an even more indifferent audience. Of course, if your poet is a poet, he will not be for a season; he will be singing after we and our contemporaries disappear, and what we chance to say of him to-day is not of much importance. But even a poet who knows that he is not for death will be pleased to gain some slight appreciation in his passage through the world. And the critic has a further task—that is to tell the people of his day that a poet, whose flying steps would not otherwise be heard, is passing through their midst. Whether this particular book, **A Hymn to Dionysus, and Other Poems,** by Margaret Sackville (3s. 6d. net), is for posterity is a question which posterity may be left to decide; but if we should say nothing of it to the people of to-day we should merit ill of our own generation. And we do not say to them that it is a book which is essential to their homes, for many of them will do quite well without it. But we may point out that in this little book are beauties which will make their homes more beautiful:—

> "And all thy words are vain, and I
> Am as those fields deep under snow which lie
> Dead, till they catch the fiery, dreadful glow
> Of a fierce Winter sunset—and the snow
> Most drearily reflects the light; thus hate
> Kindles this life of mine, else a dead weight
> Of snow, barren for ever."

A certain grandeur, as of sunset, and a classic coldness, as of winter, show themselves upon these pages. Let us hope that when she sings again there will be visible some warmth and observation, which she seems to be repressing; also that the moonlight and the sunset will not be her only lights; also that she will find our world sometimes a matter for rejoicing—then we have no doubt that the world will rejoice in her.

MESSRS. S. C. BROWN, LANGHAM AND COMPANY.

For the persons who feel Spring in their veins and want to read about her, Mr. Arthur Ransome has understandingly provided the book. **The Stone Lady** (2s. 6d. net) is a modest volume, hiding, within brown covers which would not shame a text-book on mathematics, a perfect feast of springtime, and a mental picture of tender greens, apple-blossoms and roses, cowslips, bluebells, the damp, sweet-smelling earth, together with that compulsion of emotion which the Spring brings to the lover of the country. Of late years we have had but too much reason, perhaps, to distrust the writer who gushes about Nature; we have, in fact, suffered badly from poses. But Mr. Ransome is admirably free from affectation. His style is direct, manly, and buoyant. His enthusiastic enjoyment is infectious. The "Ten Little Papers and Two Mad Stories" are beautifully printed on good paper, and form a wholesome and pleasing mental tonic, to be read in these early months.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.

The first volume of the work which is now before us, **A History of Architectural Development,** by F. M. Simpson (12s. 6d. net), deals with Egyptian, Assyrian, Persian, Greek, Roman, Sasaman, Early Christian, Basilican, and Byzantine work, and includes also a few pages on Circular churches. The author traces the evolution of design, plan, and form as influenced by the religion, climate, geographical situation, available materials, etc., in a manner which at once engages and retains the reader's interest from page to page; and we are made to realise how important a factor in each nation's history is its architecture. The comparatively small number of remaining examples and the long range of time—say some fifty centuries—over which this volume extends present special difficulties to the author, but he has spared no pains in bringing together a surprising number of plans, elevations, and detail drawings, which make us forget the difficulties he has so admirably surmounted. Various half-tone reproductions from photographs are given. Some of these are excellent, others leave a good deal to be desired. Nevertheless, we perhaps may be permitted to express a hope that in the other volumes of the series a larger number of photographic reproductions may be given. We have a very hearty welcome for this book, which doubtless will find wide favour, as it is not too technical for the general reader and not too popular for the architectural student. We shall look forward with the greatest possible interest to seeing the other volumes of this really valuable work.

MESSRS. HARRAP AND CO.

The eight papers—he will not claim for them the title of essays—which Professor Trent, of Columbia University, has gathered together in his volume, **Greatness in Literature** (5s.), handle many topics of prime importance to the teacher of literature. The chapter specially entitled "Teaching Literature" is full of practical commonsense, and Professor Trent's conclusions will command respect where they fail to bring conviction. We do not remember having seen the case against essay-writing in schools stated with such experience and force. While some of the papers are mainly of educational interest, much of the book is genuine literary criticism. Here again the features of the essays are their practical sagacity and good sense. Most of the volume was originally delivered as lectures, and this origin is still clearly visible. Professor Trent makes no effort here at fine writing. The book is written in a plain, straightforward way. Sometimes it hovers on the brink of the commonplace, but it is always suggestive and sound.

Reprints and New Editions.

Unlike other books, our most popular works of reference seem to suffer nothing from the caprice of readers. They are constantly being added to and changed, but the original edifice remains strong and good and successfully challenges emulation. Among such authorities Mrs. Beeton, in her own place, is a classic. A foremost place in the library below stairs will be accorded to **Mrs. Beeton's Book of Household Management** (7s. 6d. net), published by Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co. It is forty-five years since this domestic encyclopædia first made its appearance, and the popularity of the work and the enterprise of its proprietors may be inferred from the fact that the present edition is half as large again as its immediate predecessors. The book now contains fully 2,000 pages of clearly printed directions on everything that in the most remote way pertains to household management. The illustrations, plain and coloured, are more numerous than ever, and the work is equipped with a valuable and workmanlike index.

The **Cameo Classics** (6d. net each) which Messrs. Sisley send us are sixpenny marvels of the best literature within attractive covers. Everyone who is a reader wishes to read the classics; and in these days of flat-life and constant travel the size of those classics becomes an important matter. The day of large tomes is over, and in their place we have these charming reprints at the cost of a mere magazine. Over twenty volumes are now ready, which include Washington Irving's biography of Goldsmith, novels by Dickens, George Eliot, Ainsworth, Charles Reade, Lytton, Marryat, Hawthorne, Dibdin's "Sea Songs," Keble's "Christian Year," "The Water Babies" of Kingsley, Carlyle's "Heroes and Hero Worship," the "Essays of Elia," and some volumes of "Beauties" from such standard writers as Shakespeare, Sterne, and Burns. The appearance is in excellent taste, plain linen binding with a small medallion of Minerva's head on the cover. The twenty-odd volumes form a most attractive little library in themselves.

New Books of the Month.

JANUARY 10TH TO FEBRUARY 10TH.

THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY.

ABBOTT, EDWIN A.—Johannine Grammar, 16s. 6d. net (A. and C. Black)

ARCHIBALD, GEORGE HAMILTON.—Bible Lessons for Little Beginners. Second year. 2s. 6d. (Sunday School Union)

Mr. Archibald continues in this second volume his excellent hints to teachers and mothers of little children. By these simple means, by words, and pictures, and blocks, and blackboards, and sand-trays, the whole story of the Bible becomes vivid and impressive to the young minds, the interest of the children is thoroughly aroused, and the scenes and incidents take hold of the imagination and are not easily forgotten.

BARRY, REV. WILLIAM, D.D.—The Tradition of Scripture, 3s. 6d. net ..... (Longmans)

Christianity and the Working Classes. Edited by George Haw. 3s. 6d. net ..... (Macmillan)

DEUSSEN, PAUL.—The Philosophy of the Upanishads. Authorised English Translation by Rev. A. S. Geden, M.A. 10s. 6d. ..... (T. and T. Clark)

Israel, The Wisdom of. Translated by Edwin Collins. 1s. net (John Murray)

LONGHURST, REV. T. J.—The Royal Master, and Other Sermons, 2s. 6d. net ..... (Elliot Stock)

LUDEMANN, HERMANN, D.D.—Biblical Christianity. Translated by Maurice A. Canney, M.A. 2s. net (A. Owen and Co.)

The worth of the Bible as a guide and as a consolation is strongly impressed in this small volume from the German of Dr. Ludemann. To many who have been estranged from religious teaching by inability to overcome doubts occasioned by the mysteries of the Old and New Testaments, the author's words will come with illumination and encouragement. He counsels further study in the light of modern thought, and patience for the work of scholars who are doing their best, not to shatter faith, but to bring enlightenment by means of thought and criticism and research.

OTTLEY, R. L.—The Religion of Israel, 4s. (Cambridge University Press)

PERRIS, H. S., M.A.—The Distinctive Principles of the Liberal Free Churches. A Manual. 3d. net ..... (Philip Green)

SCOTT, REV. J. J., M.A.—The Making of the Gospels, 1s. net (John Murray)

Theology, Inaugural Lectures Delivered by Members of the Faculty of. Edited by A. S. Peake, M.A., B.D. 7s. 6d. net ..... (Sherratt and Hughes)

TROWARD, T.—Bible Mystery and Bible Meaning, 4s. net (Stead Danby and Co.)

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I.—ETON. By the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart.

YOU invite me to review from afar off the wonder-land of schooldays. What an opening for an egoist!

Old Etonians will dub him a poor creature who looks back upon his years at a private school as more profitable than those spent at Eton; yet so it is with me, and I must say it, or hold my peace. Admitted, that my private school experience was exceptional, both in environment and in the spirit pervading that little community. Reared among the windswept braes and moors of Galloway, I found myself transplanted at the age of ten to a Warwickshire rectory. Few changes of environment could have been more complete. The little village of Whitnash, closely girt with heavy-headed elms, is set amid that ocean of green pasture which stretches away for many a league to the south and west of Leamington—a typical midland landscape. White-walled cottages with black beams cluster closely round the grey parish church with its square fourteenth century tower, just as a couple of miles to the west the spire of Tachbrooke Mallory serves as the nucleus of a village of yellow-walled cottages with brown beams. Last autumn I satisfied myself, after an absence of forty years, that, amid all the changes and chances of this mortal life, the distinctive coloration of these two villages had remained unaltered since Will Shakespeare strolled over to them from the neighbouring Stratford-on-Avon. Yet was there change in other respects. Not a single smock frock did I see, formerly the normal dress of farm-labourers; and, *o nefas inexpiabile!* the parish stocks, which used to stand under a huge elm at the west end of the church, had been removed.

To come to a land like this was, in itself, a vast step in the education of a lad who had never before crossed the Scottish border. But of more lasting influence was the tone of thought and habit of action which, after the torments incident to the first year had been lived through, began to establish themselves among the fourteen or fifteen pupils—tone and habit which it has not been my fortune to encounter since in similar purity outside the family circle. Our masters dealt with us upon honour, and met with a perfect response. On the rare occasions when we knew that one of our number had lied, if he were too powerful to be dealt with, we hated and despised him; if he were of manageable strength, we sent him to Coventry. Against "cribbing," that crime so rigorously repressed by teachers, so venially viewed by the ordinary schoolboy, there were no precautions; it simply was not done. It was held in the same repute as, in later life, we regarded cheating at cards. Through the alternate murk and glare of intervening years, that sunny moral oasis sheds a radiance of its own which has never been quenched.

We were lucky in our masters. Except in matters of honour; we were no saints. Far from it. My palms and fingers tingle at this day when I recall the whistle of the cane on a frosty morning; but quite as fresh in memory are the half holidays when we were encouraged to go afield and learn something of the secrets of nature. Each of us had a bit of garden ground, and each, who chose, might keep an aquarium. These aquaria we grievously overstocked, with minnows and miller's thumbs from Whitnash brook, with gaudy newts from the horsepond, and, to the sore affliction of less militant captives, with bloodthirsty *Ditiscus* and dragon-fly larvæ from the clay pits. To a Scottish boy, of course, there were wonders of enchanting novelty in every woodland and by every wayside—purple emperor butterflies in the oak tops of Uppingham; orange-tips and brimstones (unknown in the north) in the meadows; huge privet-hawk moths and dappled lackeys in the shrubberies. Intimacy with such marvels as these gave a zest to existence, amply atoning for the elusiveness of irregular aorists and the pitfalls besetting the path through Euclid.

The same wisdom which caused our masters to send us out into the country for recreation made them provide as part of our regular curriculum instruction in a fascinating form of skilled labour. A fully-equipped little printing house had been fitted up, with a journeyman printer in attendance, and we were allowed marks for proficiency in learning the trade just as for ordinary school tasks. Two by two we took our turn at the work, accomplishing all the school printing, the parish magazine, and a lot of odd jobs besides. Typography could never have borne for me the significance it does had I not been thus early initiated into the craft of setting and distributing, imposing and justifying, and learnt the meaning of upper and lower case, great primer, small pica, and so on. Let every pedagogue who wishes to be affectionately remembered by his pupils provide some handiwork as part of the curriculum, for nimble fingers are alternately the servants and the stimulants of seedling wits.

To go to Eton from this miniature Eutopia involved a plunge almost as violent as did the first transplantation from home. The immediate effect upon myself was a frost. Spurred, hitherto, by the generous spirit of emulation which had pervaded the class-room as much as the playground, I had done my level best, with the result that I took remove, the highest form open to a newcomer at Eton. Thenceforward it was go as you

Photo Frith.

Eton College.

please, and few of us pleased to go further than just to escape punishment. Public opinion at Whitnash—that is, the opinion of one's schoolfellows—had applauded good and successful work; at Eton, in my tutor's house at least, public opinion was perfectly indifferent on that subject. There was a code of honour, but it did not bar "cribbing"; nor, indeed, outwitting a master by any means except direct falsehood or theft. The peculiar custom of "shirking" when out of bounds seemed almost a statutory recognition of deception. I believe it has been modified or wholly abolished nowadays, but it was in full force in the early 'sixties. It consisted in dodging into a shop or behind a tree upon the approach of a master. Now, whereas such places as the boat-rafts, the river above bridge, and the terrace of Windsor Castle, were reckoned within bounds, but all the intervening streets were reckoned out of bounds, the paradox was patent of punishing a boy for being caught on his way to any of these places; yet punished he inevitably would be if he did not "shirk" any master he chanced to meet in the town.

It was pretty soon proved to me also that a boy's word, which at Whitnash was as frankly accepted as any man's oath, commanded scant respect at Eton. Proved in this way: There stood in Williams's shop an old tea chest, a receptacle for stray schoolbooks, whence it was a recognised custom for boys to borrow on an emergency. One day in my first term, just before eleven o'clock school, having mislaid my "Poetæ Græci," I dashed into Williams's and took a copy from the tea-chest. The book happened to have the owner's name inked in large letters on the outside edge of the leaves. I was "up to" the master, to whose house the said owner belonged. Having called me up to construe, the master suddenly stopped me and asked:

"Where did you get that book?"

"Please, sir, in the box at Williams's," I replied, suspecting no ill.

"I shall complain of you for stealing."

"Please, sir, I was going to put it back after school."

"Silence, sir! Go back to your place."

Sure enough, he inscribed my name on the bill, with the damning word "Stealing" against it. Not a syllable of explanation or mitigation; just the accursed participle branding me as a thief.

Boys "complained of" for the first time (that is, named to the headmaster for a flogging) were entitled to claim "first fault," and so escape "a swishing." With considerable confidence I claimed the privilege; but Dr. Goodford, fixing his little brown eyes upon me, snarled: "I cannot allow first fault for stealing. Go down!" I had no presence of mind for expostulation; for "there's such divinity doth hedge a Head" as no boy in his first half (they call the schooltimes "terms" now) would dare to affront. So down I went, and up went what French milliners would call my *dessous*, and I received my first swishing. The pain was trifling, but every stroke burnt deeper the sense of injustice and unmerited slander. Could there under Heaven be ranker abuse of power than to charge an innocent boy with a *criminal* offence, and give him no opportunity of explanation or defence?

Well, my traducer has been dead these many years, God rest his soul! and I only record his offence as a beacon to warn other dominies against committing the like; for, of all sentiments, a sense of injustice is most likely to bring out the evil and suppress the good in a boy's disposition. Anyhow, from that day forward my time at Eton was wasted. Instead of the

Photo Frith.

Eton College: Gateway and Masters' Houses.

honest pride I used to feel in putting a task through, I availed myself of a system which was but too favourable to indolence. By the by, Dr. Goodford made a curious *amende* for refusing me "first fault." Catapults were much in vogue in those days; so much so that manslaughter on an extensive scale seems to have been avoided only by sheer miracle. My tutor's back windows looked out upon the chapel yard, and out of these one night I recklessly fired a bullet at a lighted window in Hardisty's house. Next day there was a terrible to-do; the bullet had entered Mrs. Hardisty's nursery, and although none of the children had been hurt, there was a cry for the culprit, and threat of a school punishment if he did not give himself up. My feelings were pretty miserable when I presented myself in Hardisty's study to own up. Instant expulsion loomed near, for catapulting had been laid under the weightiest ban. Hardisty looked stern enough with his grizzled hair and eagle nose; but it was an immense relief when he said he intended "to complain of me"—*i.e.*, to send my name to the Head for a flogging, a form of discipline, which by that time, alas! had lost its chief terror for me through repetition. What was my amazement on presenting myself among the doomed at the appointed hour to hear from the Head, instead of the familiar command, "Go down!" that as I had given myself up he would excuse me a flogging. It was misguided mercy, I think, for I had fairly earned punishment, and, in owning up, had only acted as any boy with a spark of honour and pluck would have done. Reprieve, and the grounds for it, made me feel a bit of a hero—as if I had done a fine thing.

Photo Frith.

Eton College: Bridge and Playing Fields.

I am sorry that I cannot ennoble this record with a single deed of prowess. I was as slack in sport as in study, devoting to novels of James Grant and Bulwer Lytton any hours that might be filched from football in winter and spending delicious summer hours in desultory "wet-bobbing" on the river. My solitary triumph was rowing bow in the winning pair of my tutor's sweepstakes. These sweepstakes were rowed in skiffs, and the marvel was that boys without any preliminary training could stand the terrible strain involved in the race. Certainly there can be hardly any agony more acute while it lasts than that caused by being completely "pumped."

But if I have no exploit of my own to recount, I cannot omit from notice one performed by a schoolfellow. In front of our house ran a mill-stream, beyond which was an orchard rented by my tutor, and used by his pupils as a pleasure ground. At the junction of this mill-stream with the Thames a large sewer discharged its contents, for in those days the Thames Conservancy either was not, or was a body very different in vigilance from what it has since become. At this spot almost invariably lay a large trout, fattening upon such dubious delicacies as might be expected in such a place. One June morning little Jodrell was fishing in the mill-stream for chub or what not. His gear was a sixpenny perch line and float tied to the top of a half-crown rod—no reel. Just as he was opposite the mouth of the sewer, a huge trout made a dash through the hovering bleak, scattering them in all directions with sparkling flash. Straightway Jodrell hooked a bleak upon his line and flung it to the fish. It was twenty to one against the trout taking any notice—a thousand to one against its being landed on such tackle. Nevertheless, the double event came off. The great fish seized the bait; little Jodrell held on amain, and actually dragged the trout across the stream

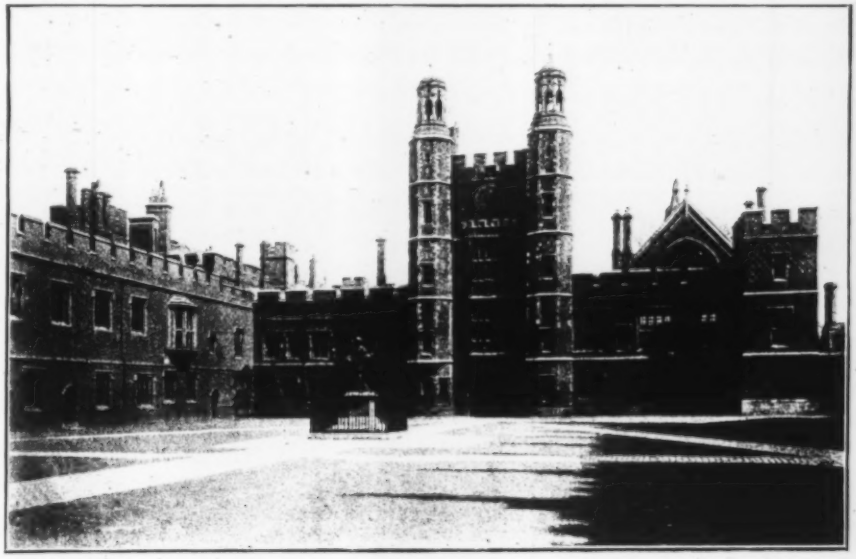


Photo Frith.

Eton College: The Quadrangle.

into shallow water. A long, lean fellow called Street happened to be loafing near, and, running up, plunged into the stream, got the creature in his arms, and brought it safely to bank. The whole performance was over in less than a minute; the trout weighed 9 lb., and those will best appreciate the extraordinary nature of the feat who have watched sportsmen, equipped with all the resources of civilisation, spinning for Thames trout day after day, week after week, nay, season after season, and perhaps never getting so much as an offer. Without a yard of line to yield, and with a frail gimcrack of a rod, Jodrell accomplished in an "after twelve" what so many have failed to do in a whole season.

Well, all this may seem a sorry recollection of that school of which so many minds are stored with more stirring memories. Yet, let it not be supposed that I look back ungratefully to my Alma Mater. Gentle Mother she is to all, to those who bring her fame, and to those who can return nothing but thanks. Many a time I seem to see the sunlight striking through a shimmer of young elm leaves upon the grey chapel wall, and the sense of brightness is never absent from the vision. It was the custom to allow boys to show up a *Vale* in English verse instead of the last copy of hexameters before they left. I can only recall the first limping stanza of my doggrel, and it strikes no melancholy note.

"View we now the past at leisure,
Bright the hours at Eton spent,
Few the clouds that fleck the azure,
Scarce the virgin veil is rent."

"Very fair," said my easy-going old tutor, pulling his whiskers, "very fair. But I don't understand what you mean by the 'virgin veil.'"

"Neither do I, sir," I replied; and to this day no satisfactory explanation has occurred to me.

New Educational Books.

PROFESSOR MURRAY'S "ELECTRA."*

Almost everyone knows Milton's reference to how

"the repeated air
Of sad Electra's poet had the pow'r
To save the Athenian walls from ruin bare,"

but the actual play of Euripides has hitherto had few readers. The story, indeed, which it relates is not attractive. Electra, when the play opens, has been brooding for years over her wrongs. Since Clytemnestra slew her father Agamemnon on his return from Troy, in order to wed Ægisthus, she has been ceaselessly nursing her thoughts of vengeance. When Orestes, her brother, once comes to manhood, then, she surely hopes, blood shall be the price of blood. And at last the young prince returns from exile, urged thereto by a solemn oracle of Apollo. At first he comes secretly and in disguise; then follow recognition, plotting, a twofold murder, and the tale is ended; so that those who are already acquainted with it as set forth by Æschylus and Sophocles, are not naturally inclined to study a third presentation of the same gruesome theme. Professor Murray, however, holds that by his treatment of it Euripides lends the subject a new and more tragic interest. If it is one of "the best abused of ancient tragedies," the cause, he suggests, is that it is "not one of the best understood," and he would probably accept Browning's description of it as that

"Triumphant play, wherein our poet first
Dared bring the grandeur of the Tragic Two
Down to the level of our common life."

To discuss fully whether he is right or wrong would need an essay, but beyond question, when Euripides endeavours to bring Electra to "the level of common life," he attempts a hard task. In Æschylus there is such a dark, mysterious sense of inevitable and overpowering destiny that we pity rather than condemn the frail human agents of its decrees, while Sophocles, although delineation of her character is perhaps his chief object, does somehow elevate the figure of Electra above common life and common experience. We regard her almost as we regard Hamlet: her father's ghost is ever at her side; "Revenge this foul and most unnatural murder" is ever in her ear, and she can shed blood without becoming abhorrent. But in Euripides she is so human that she shocks us. When she would catalogue her woes, she calls attention, "in the first place"—Professor Murray omits this womanly touch—to the quality of her dress, and then goes on to lament that she has to weave the stuff herself. This is natural, no doubt, and "our Euripides the human" is true to life; but, as Electra is presently to murder her mother, we feel somehow that the "extenuating circumstances" put forward on her behalf would fail even in a police-court. And then later on she reviles the dead body of Ægisthus in a speech which may be natural, but is certainly revolting. Was he such a dotard, she asks, as to dream that "her mother"—yes, "mother" is the exact word—was false to Agamemnon and yet chaste with him? Professor Murray omits the vile words, but they are there and entirely consonant with her malignant hate. Even when the deed is done, and Orestes, haunted by the awful vision of his mother baring her breast as she kneels to him for pity, cries to his sister—

"I lifted over mine eyes
My mantle: blinded I smote,
As one smiteth a sacrifice;
And the sword found her throat,

Electra, like Lady Macbeth, has no remorse. "But I," she answers proudly, "cheered thee on, and laid hand on thy sword (i.e., to guide it) withal." The Greek is unmistakable, though Professor Murray attempts to explain it away, and it is horrible.

But whether a critic disagrees with the translator's judgment on the play or not, no one can question the brilliancy of his version. Here and there, indeed, occur some of those mock-heroic phrases, such as "death-shorn brow" and "a bloody twain," which are peculiar to classical translations, and occasionally the rhyme demands that cauldrons should be set "around the fire and in," or that someone should be urged to "dance . . . like a fawn in the night." But the vivacity of the rendering carries the reader away and makes him blind to small defects, while the poetry is often admirable, as in this choric fragment, descriptive of the ornament on Achilles' shield—

"But midmost, where the boss rose higher,
A sun stood blazing,
And winged steeds, and stars in choir,
Hyad and Pleiad, fire on fire,
For Hector's dazing:
Across the golden helm, each way,
Two taloned Sphinxes held their prey,
Song-drawn to slaughter:
And round the breastplate ramping came
A mingled breed of fire and flame,
Hot-eyed to tear that steed of fame
That found Pirênê's water."

No more poetic reproduction of a hard bit of a hard chorus could be imagined, and in what may be called poetic interpretation, Professor Murray is often equally good, as when—to take a single instance—Electra, bidding farewell to Orestes, says στείχω βλέφαρον τέγγουσ' ἀπαλόν. The force of the last word she utters may escape attention, but becomes admirably clear in the rendering, "I pass from you, soft-eyed at last." Perhaps, indeed, the translator sometimes interprets the text too freely. When a reference is made to Agamemnon's blood still staining the palace floor, Euripides simply writes αἷμα δ' ἔτι πατρὸς κατὰ στέγας | μέλαν σέσηπεν, but here we have—

"And there upon the floor the blood, the old
Black blood yet crawls and cankers, like a rot
In the stone!"

the aim being clearly to give a theatrical effect, and similar

* "The Electra of Euripides." By G. Murray, M.A., LL.D. 2s. net. (George Allen.)

Photo Reginald Haines.

REV. CANON E. LYTTELTON,
Headmaster of Eton College.

tricks are frequent. For instance, when Electra says of her mother that she shall soon be "mated to Ægisthus in the halls of Hades," this appears as "Thou shalt lie with him in Hell," where the words "in Hell" misrepresent the Greek in order to tickle modern playgoers, while elsewhere such simple words as "and my mother" are transformed into "And she, s h e!" followed by a number of dots, intended to mark a thrilling pause, which is simply impossible in the original. But these are all minor matters. The main point about Professor Murray's work is that it is instinct with life. Whether his play always presents to us exactly the impression which the Greek original conveys may at times be disputed, but he interests us from beginning to end; and, if by some delicate touches here and there he has improved what seemed a poor tragedy almost into a good one, this amiable error is so rare among translators that it may even count as a real distinction. T. E. PAGE.

BACCHYLIDES.*

A special interest attaches to the last work in which a famous scholar throws his ray of light upon the ancient world. More than nine years have passed since Egypt restored to us the last Greek lyrist of the canon, and in deferring his edition for the Horatian period Sir Richard Jebb put it off almost to the end of his industrious life. Meantime much has been done to amend the errors of the copyists, to fill the gaps in the papyrus, and to elucidate the poet's meaning. Sir Richard was himself not the least of the labourers in the field. We have now his complete edition. The problems are not all solved, some are not likely to be solved, but, even where the decision is not final, the grounds for it are of interest and value.

It might have been wished that the dust-heaps had given us some greater writer than the amiable poet of Ceos, Menander, for instance, in whose extant fragments Goethe found cheerfulness, nobility, and unattainable grace. Not that Bacchylides is unworthy of the labour spent on him. He may not stand so high as he stood in the enthusiasm of the first discovery, nor will anyone follow his patron, Hiero, Lord of Syracuse, in preferring him to Pindar. He has not the grand style, because he lacks the high seriousness and the absolute sincerity which alone beget it. His myths, as Sir Richard Jebb says, are ornamental adjuncts rather than illustrations, which seem to spring spontaneously from the poetic motive. There is therefore no outburst of the divine spirit, little, in philosophic phrase, to arouse the transcendental self, little, in Milton's words, to

> "Dissolve me into ecstasies
> And bring all Heaven before mine eyes."

But Bacchylides is elegant and his elegance is free from blurs. Such was the verdict of the great critic whose treatise on the grand style passes under the name of Longinus. We have now the means of seeing that this judgment neither exceeds nor falls short of the truth. Sir Richard Jebb compares Bacchylides in some points with Horace. There are indeed two manifest differences. The Greek had not the happy turn, the delicate phrase, by which, with the help of his simple view of life, Horace cheats the man of the world into taking him for a great poet. On the other hand, Bacchylides does not fall into the naked realism which in Horace's Odes troubles the critical sense. In both lyrists there is the strain of pensive melancholy struggling manfully after cheerfulness, the lightness of touch which beguiles an idle hour, the absence of those deep questionings which are to be seen in a Virgil or a Milton. It is no wonder that Bacchylides had a vogue which was denied to Pindar. The greatest poets are not the most popular.

Sir Richard Jebb's edition is so complete in all points, biographical, historical, and textual, that it is not likely to be superseded at any rate in the present generation. He gives a transcript of the papyrus, an amended text, and all that can be required on the philology and metrology of the poems. The translation which faces the text has all the merits which mark the editor's version of Sophocles. Yet with all these merits it gives many pin-pricks to the English reader. It is not without traces of the pseudo-Augustan vocabulary, as when a father appears as a sire. The most irritating, because the most common flaw, is in the word by which Sir Richard Jebb usually, though not always, renders the various Greek terms for what the translators of the Psalms call man or a man. The full offensiveness of this use may be seen by intruding his word into any familiar passage. "What is a mortal that thou art mindful of him or the son of a mortal that thou so regardest him?" Sir Richard Jebb sometimes resolves his poet's compound adjectives and sometimes uses familiar English compounds, but at other times he gives such unnatural epithets as "deep-girdled" or "vine-nurturing," where resolution would have better suited the genius of our tongue. Again, though, as long as he thought in Greek, his eye was on his object, he seems sometimes to have removed it when he returned to his native language. In the ninth Ode is a passage which, as amended by Blass and Jebb, describes how an Athenian won two races in succession, and how at the end of the second the spectators crowded round him so that the oil and sweat on his naked body soiled their clothing. This Sir Richard Jebb calls "sprinkling their garments." By way of contrast there may be quoted a comment which reads like eighteenth-century criticism at its best. Hercules in Hades meets the dead Meleager, who told him what an evil doom had brought him there. Hercules in sympathy replies that "it were best for men that they had never been born." Sir Richard Jebb points out that the place makes the remark inapposite, for it suggests the other half of the adage—"and next best to die soon." JOHN SARGEAUNT.

* Bacchylides, the Poems and Fragments." Edited by Sir Richard C. Jebb. (Cambridge University Press.)

ON TRANSLATING HOMER.*

In the absence of a preface, we take it that this edition of Matthew Arnold's "Homer" is intended for top forms, University Extension classes, and home-students. The introduction and notes are frankly didactic and informative. We are told in the latter who the pre-Raphaelites were, who Sainte-Beuve was. For the above-mentioned readers there is perhaps no English critic more suitable than Matthew Arnold. He is lucid, sane, and scholarly, even when he is wrong. He neither strays into byways nor wears his heart on his sleeve. He is not so remote, but he is easy to get into touch with, and, on the other hand, he is just remote enough from the dust-cloud of contemporary criticism. "On Translating Homer" does not, of course, represent Arnold at his best. There is a little too much carping and patronage—the superior attitude; a little too much repetition. But it does provide a foothold in the translation controversy, and it defines once and for all the four pre-eminent qualities of Homer: rapidity in movement, plainness in word and style, simplicity in ideas, and nobility of manner. Above all, Arnold "has the merit which outweighs many faults, of appealing to first principles." In the introduction Dr. Rouse points out that Arnold took up some untenable positions; that Homer did not write all Homer, so to speak, and that the scholar is not, as Arnold averred, the only and sufficient judge of translations. He deals with, and contrasts, by means of parallel quotations, the English versions of the "Iliad" and "Odyssey," which have appeared after, as well as before, 1861-2, when "On Translating Homer" was published. It is fairly obvious that a satisfactory translation has yet to be made. Like Arnold himself, Dr. Rouse inclines to the English hexameter as a medium; an Anglicised hexameter, not an exact imitation of the Greek. Homeric simplicity and directness he would try to attain by the skilful use of dialect words. What the English hexameter might become, did it receive half the care and practise which have been devoted to other forms of verse, we cannot say. But we do know that dialects fuse badly with each other and the common tongue, and that dialect words, without their proper locutions, their native intonations, lose much of their forcefulness and beauty.

* "On Translating Homer." By Matthew Arnold. A New Edition, with Introduction and Notes by W. H. D. Rouse, M.A., Litt.D. 3s. 6d. (Murray.)

ALMOND OF LORETTO.†

Mr. Mackenzie has laid the whole teaching world under an obligation by the publication of this tribute to the memory of a great man, the influence of whose lifelong fight against unscientific ideals of education, and against convention and tradition in regard to the nurture of children, is being felt in widening circles. The older generation of teachers knew Almond better than the younger, who profit unconsciously

† "Almond of Loretto." Being the Life and a Selection from the Letters of Helv Hutchinson Almond, M.A., LL.D., Headmaster of Loretto School, 1862-1903. By Robert Jameson Mackenzie, M.A., Late Rector of the Edinburgh Academy. 12s. 6d. net. (Constable.)

by his example and teaching. To many, however, his name has stood merely for eccentricity, and as such has caused much harmless amusement. As a little boy, he hoped the Lord would not love him, as he did not want any chastening. His outlook was always lightened by humour, and, speaking of his own progress, he says: "Mahomet was fifteen years without making a convert, and then Mrs. Mahomet joined his Church." His very attire made strangers smile. Unless the weather was very cold, he wore neither hat, coat, nor waistcoat, but a flannel shirt, unconfined at the throat, and flannel trousers, which "seem to hold upon rather a precarious tenure, and bag a good deal at the ankles, over a pair of wonderful, crescent-shaped shoes." To others he was a successful schoolmaster, who built up from nothing to fame, especially in matters athletic, a public school whose boys, after they were first regularly sent to English Universities, gained more Rugby Blues than those of any other school, and combined with the physical superiority a charm of manners which endeared them to their fellows. To the far-seeing ones he was a wise prophet, whose utterances and precepts would one day avail to school the world.

As a boy Almond was original and precocious; he began to learn his letters at sixteen months; at five he asked his mother if she knew who he was the first time she saw him; at seven he returned from school in Glasgow with "piles of prizes." He had a distinguished career at Glasgow, and, as Mr. Mackenzie says, he was a true son of that University in the keenness and range of his intellectual vision, and the joyous and masterful play of his faculties. He was not at home at Oxford, where he noted an absence of enthusiasm and originality, but his success in gaining, in 1853, two firsts in Moderations, made him a hero at Balliol. But he always retained a dislike for mere scholarship. "The source of all our disasters," he wrote of the Boer war, "is that boys from their earliest years are never taught to think; and this I believe to be greatly due to the fact that the scholarly mind rather than the scientific mind is the passport to all educational appointments, from the village school upwards. For the scholar appeals naturally to usage, the man of science to truth."

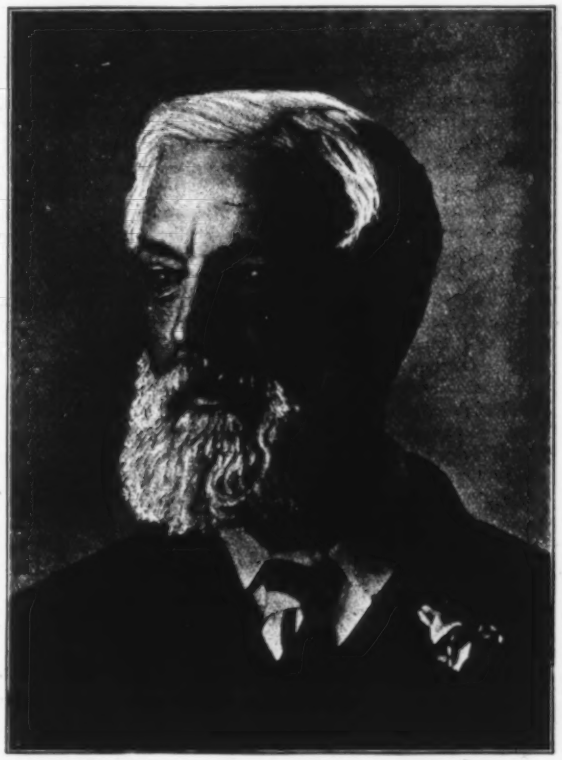


Photo Elliott & Fry.

Almond of Loretto.

At the beginning of his career as a teacher Almond was strongly impressed by the remark of Herbert Spencer that, while men gave great attention to the rearing of horses and dogs, no one tries to rear the finest men; and he frequently afterwards quoted the saying. He wrote once to the headmaster of a technical school: "Surely I may appeal to you whether of all the machines you have to deal with, the human machine is not the most important?" Holding such views, he naturally gave a high place to games and outdoor exercise as part of the curriculum. This book gives us many a bright picture of the playing-grounds: cricket, golf, football, cross-country runs, and many other forms of exercise were shared in by boys and masters alike, and everything possible was done that would lead to vigour and patriotism. In the practice of athletics proper, he never allowed any competition for prizes. The result was, Almond wrote four years ago: "I do not think I ever heard a boy's name shouted at the inter-school games; it was always the name of the school."

Almond's ideas of hygiene were far in advance of his time. He maintained that a delicate boy should be as rare as a black swan, and that, with our modern knowledge, men ought to be reared as superior to us as we are to Bushmen. His practical method included the careful provision of fresh air in all rooms; the daily bath; the habitual eating of food only at the right times; the due allowance of sleep; daily vigorous exercise in all weathers; careful avoidance of intellectual overwork and competitive strains in athletics; the use of rational boots and loose clothing; and avoidance of excessive clothing indoors and in hot weather. He wrote in 1890: "If a big fellow kept his coat on at golf or dinner on a hot day, it would annoy me more, and really be a greater breach of my ideas than being late." When he abolished the wearing of waistcoats, the chest girths of the boys jumped at once. He insisted on the wearing of flannels of one ply only, and on immediate changing after violent exercise. One of his golden rules was, "When cold, get warm by exercise; never go near a fire until you are already warm." Equal care was given to the abundance and quality of good food, and one of the results of his method was that illness was wellnigh unknown in the school.

Almond naturally took a very high view of his profession. The schoolmaster, he said, should be classed with the clergyman, the statesman, and the man of letters. "His is a sacred calling, a cure of souls, as well as of intellects and bodies." For him character, physique, intelligence, manners, and information were the five great objects of education, in the order given. Discipline, manliness, chastity, mercy, and presence of mind were his ideals. And Loretto was to be a community "visibly living according to the dictates of science or right reason." He wrote to a colleague: "Where I think your weak point is, that you are so bent on helping boys to get on in the world as it is, that you do not see that an object in all education, soaring above, though not divorced from the practical, is so to educate them as to train men who shall help to frame an ideal of the world as it might be, and to move towards it."

It is hardly possible here to give any idea of his attitude towards the subjects of class work. He believed in Latin as the best training subject, and in Greek literature as the inspirer of the nobler intellectual qualities; he held that the mental exertion of putting the Odyssey into English is far more valuable as a school subject than reading any English; he wished, as a reformer, to see all grammar papers knocked out, together with all cram about the history of literature. His words on Greek literature are well worth remembering: "The Greek literature is not only superior in itself, but it constantly holds before us a simpler and nobler standard of life, taste and manners, and if it influences only a few minds, these are the minds which to some extent leaven society. . . . But for the minds influenced by the great Greeks—Wordsworth, Ruskin, Tennyson, and Gladstone—our ideals would be lower than they are."

There is much more in this valuable record to which it would have been pleasant to draw attention; for example, the brotherly attachment which bound "the Head" to his pupils, and his wonderful faculty for drawing out the best that lay in a boy; also the religious side of his character and teaching, which was the crown of his lifework. But perhaps what has been said in these brief notes may have the desired effect of inducing teacher and general reader to go direct to Mr. Mackenzie's book, which deserves in full measure our praise and recommendation.

E. E. SPEIGHT.

AN INTRODUCTORY HISTORY OF ENGLAND.*

Mr. Fletcher's Introductory History of England has now made its reappearance in a cheaper edition. That is a wel-

* "An Introductory History of England." By C. R. L. Fletcher. (John Murray.)

come fact for more reasons than one. Some of us who for some time past have good reason to value Mr. Fletcher's qualities as a student and a teacher of history had been covertly hoping against hope that some day he would have the courage of his convictions, and put into the challenge of cold print his views as to how English history should be read. Last summer, to our satisfaction, we discovered that he had done so, at least as far as the commencement of the Tudor epoch. Many of us who also have to teach history selfishly no doubt desired such a book simply for ourselves; we were probably cynically pessimistic as to whether a volume which ignored all the technique and tricks of the text books in vogue, which gloried in being unable "to help anyone to pass any examination," could storm the privileged citadels of the schools. We knew it was a good book, a new book, an inspiring book, the best of its kind since Green's work of genius, but would it, could it be popular? Our doubts were quite wrong, and it is most pleasant to confess it. This Introductory History, for which we have to thank the "uncomplimentary young gentlemen" who found history "intolerably dull," is likely to displace the text books "fortified with tables, summaries, and lists of dates," and to do it as Seeley wished for students to whom history did not appeal, not by altering history, but by altering *them*.

It will not be amiss briefly to inquire why this is so. First and foremost, because from the first word of the Preface to the last on page 379, there is the unmistakable stamp of a personality. The reader, be he grey beard or in an Eton jacket, who could go through this book and not feel that he is in touch with one who knows his subject, who believes in it, a man with a passion for the middle ages, and a faith of his own, who sees picture after picture, to whom Agricola and Alfred, William the Conqueror and Henry II., the Black Prince and Henry VI., are real men struggling with real difficulties, fighting for real causes that do matter to us very much, had better leave history alone altogether, or study it for examination purposes in books where men and women are labels, and great changes are cut and dried into parcels that can be learned by heart and forgotten. Secondly, because the writing throughout is so refreshing and sincere; it is colloquial in the best sense of that much abused term. Too frequently an attempt to write colloquially is simply a degeneration into the slipshod, the vulgar, and the ungrammatical. Mr. Fletcher writes colloquially because he thinks colloquially; he desires to explain, and his own vivid thoughts and unflagging interest in all that is real, important, and picturesque in the past find their fittest expression in the direct simplicity of the eager talker with a full mind. He is always *telling* us something; therefore he is colloquial as Lamb is colloquial. But like the real talker to whom everyone gladly listens, he comments as he tells, he criticises as he describes. Take as an example pp. 96 and following. Here the changes in the territorial and economic system brought about by the Norman Conquest are to be explained and put in their proper places. Mr. Fletcher apparently flings science and economics to the wind; he personalises and localises the process, yet by the time he has finished all the technical terms *are* explained and all the various parts of the complicated apparatus are in their proper places. Those terrible chapters from Stubbs and Maitland, Freeman, Vinogradoff, and Seebohm, which have broken so many hearts and killed so many text books, have been in fact crushed into a fascinating digression. The obiter dicta throughout are delightful. Indeed the Preface alone has in it the comfort of many hours, and it would not be difficult for a German critic to construct from the text Mr. Fletcher's creed on a good many things besides the history with which he deals. Do you desire a characteristic example, then turn to p. 266, and read in connection with the Statute of Labourers the remarks about Political Economy and its goddess, "an ugly female at best," whose truths "some fools have not learned yet," or to p. 359 and the character of Richard III., because "specialist historians will say almost anything"? But after all the best criticism on the book is the remark of a schoolboy to whom it was read in his holidays. "Bother! the last chapter." That sums up correctly the feelings of grown-ups too. For this is a book more helpful to teachers even than the taught. Despite its author's brave fling at English history as a means of education for which he has "no such regard at all," it will aid enormously in showing how much education can be got from history. Mr. Fletcher has, I sincerely hope, not written his last chapter, but will "make siccar" with a volume on the Tudors and Stewarts. Secondly, can he be persuaded to add to the illustrative matter? The maps so far are excellent, but an illustrated edition (such as that of Green's "Short History") would be a real joy—and it would sell.

C. GRANT ROBERTSON.

A NEW INTERPRETATION OF HERBART'S PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL THEORY.*

The usual method of educational writers who deal with Herbart is to treat his metaphysic as hopeless, and to devote their attention to his pedagogy, which is now generally acknowledged to be of great service to the practical teacher. Mr. Davidson cannot reconcile himself to profit by a doctrine that is unable to claim a rational basis, so he proceeds to a serious examination of what underlies the Herbartian Theory of Education. In order that we may understand before criticising, he maintains that we should consider the Herbartian metaphysic in the light of the Leibnizian rather than the Kantian philosophy. To this end he gives us a remarkably lucid statement of the Leibnizian position, followed by a deduction of the psychological standpoint involved, with particular reference to Leibniz's theory of feeling and will. Though Herbart in his definition of the soul specifically differentiates it from Leibnizian substance, Mr. Davidson proceeds to show that the Herbartian soul is virtually a Leibnizian monad. It thus becomes evident that the work justifies its claim to be an interpretation, as it reads into Herbart conceptions that may be implicit in his writings, but were certainly not fully realised by him. By the help of the insight of recent writers, notably Professor Adamson and Professor James, Mr. Davidson is able to introduce into the Herbartian system an order and a consistency that have hitherto been lacking. It is no easy task to take up an author that is usually labelled atomistic and presentationalist, and show that his system is really based on the concept of organism.

No one can read Herbart without perceiving that he sometimes expresses himself in such a way as to imply that presentations have a sort of independent existence apart from the soul. If on the one hand "presentations become forces," and on the other the soul is reduced to a state of passivity that leaves it nothing more than a certain power of inertia, it is clear that there is a danger of misplacing the source of soul activity. Mr. Davidson interprets his author in such a way as to throw back the presentative activity from the presentations to the soul. So far from being independent entities the presentations are only the forms in and through which the soul life is carried on. The two ordinary objections raised to the presentational psychology—the lack of a co-ordinating principle among the presentations, and the difficulty of explaining personal identity—are met by an ingenious application of the Jamesian conception of the self as the present conscious state representing and including all the previous conscious states.

The much-discussed "the will springs from the circle of thought" is traced back to the Leibnizian theory of feeling and will. Since will is the natural outcome of perception accompanied by feeling, it is easy to see how virtue is made to depend upon knowledge. It cannot be denied that, in view of the rest of his philosophy, Herbart would have been prepared to accept the rendering given three times in this volume, "the ignorant man cannot be virtuous," but the reiteration of the saying in this form, makes one wonder whether Mr. Davidson is willing to accept "ignorant" as a satisfactory rendering of "stumpfsinnig." This is not a verbal quibble, as the rendering of the word determines the position of "educative instruction" in the Herbartian system. The working out of the development of the will according to Herbart is remarkably well done. It would have been still better, however, had it included a discussion of the subjective and the objective sides of character as illustrated in the functioning of will. It is instructive to note that in differentiating the will that the individual finds already existing within himself when he begins to examine himself, from the will that arises at and because of this self-examination, Herbart is quietly assuming the emergence of a self-conscious ego that he is elsewhere at great pains to deduce in due philosophical form.

By applying Professor Adamson's view that the real as

* "A New Interpretation of Herbart's Psychology and Educational Theory." By John Davidson. 5s. net. (William Blackwood and Sons.)

content enters into but does not dominate the act of knowledge, Mr. Davidson shows that right knowledge necessarily results in right action. Any difficulty in understanding this, he maintains, results from assuming a wholly superfluous ego that stands outside of, and judges between, knowing and willing: while the truth of the matter is that the whole being of the self consists in nothing else but knowing and willing. "Will is a soul movement in and through presentations, and therefore may be said to spring out of and to be determined by presentations." This view of the will determines the attitude to be adopted towards interest. Against Hubatsch, Mr. Davidson defends the order—"attention, interest, will": for though will as mere caprice might precede interest, will as disciplined self-activity must act through interest. This justifies the commanding position of interest in the Herbartian system, where it ranks as an end and not as a mere means. The usual complaint against interest as leading to a "soft pedagogy," is based upon the false view of knowledge as something separate from activity and will. Habituation is as applicable to knowledge as to will, since they are only different manifestations of the functioning of the same organism.

After a very effective treatment of the problem of formal education, in the course of which occurs quite a Platonic argument regarding knowledge as instrument, Mr. Davidson deals with the vexed question of individuality in relation to many-sided interest. As in the Froebelian system regard for the individuality of the pupil seems to leave no room for the activity of the educator, so in the Herbartian system the activity of the educator seems to leave no room for the natural development of the individuality of the pupil. By means of a diagram, however, Mr. Davidson makes it clear how this individuality may be respected, and at the same time manipulated to the lasting advantage of the pupil. In the concluding chapter we are shown that self-realisation lacks content, and that therefore the concept of interest forms a better educational aim. The book is a solid contribution to the subject, and should do much to remove the uneasiness that many educators experience regarding the basis of an educational theory that they feel to be of the greatest practical value. JOHN ADAMS.

A COMMENTARY ON PROPERTIUS.*

We welcome the appearance of this book, as an English commentary on the whole of Propertius has long been urgently required. The last complete commentary published in this country was that of Paley, the second edition of which appeared in 1872. It possessed considerable merits, but is, naturally, quite out of date. Professor Postgate, and Professor Ramsay of Glasgow, have each published an edition of Select Elegies. Professor Postgate's work, in particular, is most valuable and suggestive, but his collection contains barely one-third of the Elegies.

Mr. Butler gives us practically nothing new about his author's text, and offers only two new readings, which he has already contributed to Professor Phillimore's text. The *apparatus criticus* also is founded on Bährens and on Postgate. The introduction on the Life of Propertius, the MSS., etc., without being exhaustive, is thoroughly good and sound. The commentary is a very careful piece of work. Mr. Butler has made a thorough study of the other editions, and of the special treatises on Propertius, and his work is well up to date. In places where he has nothing very new to suggest, he gives an impartial and careful account of the views of his predecessors, and shows good judgment in weighing the value of the different interpretations. He generally exhibits much independence of thought, and, though one may differ from him here and there, he gives a reasoned account of the view he adopts, and no real difficulty appears to have been neglected. One cannot expect agreement everywhere in the case of a difficult author like Propertius; and it is more than probable that in many passages the last word of criticism has by no means been spoken. The exegetical notes are much less full than those of Professor Postgate; but no doubt Mr. Butler has done his best to keep his book, already a bulky one, within reasonable limits.

We might suggest, in view of a second edition, that the number of the Elegy should, for convenience of reference, be put at the top of each page of the commentary, as well as the number of the book. One other point should also be mentioned. There is a very considerable number of false accents in the Greek passages quoted in the commentary. This is a fault that too often disfigures the pages of editions of the classics published in this country, whereas the Germans are well known to be scrupulously accurate on this point. We have also tested the index, and found it to be wanting in accuracy.

In spite of these minor blemishes, the book is thoroughly to be recommended as an excellent piece of work, and it will doubtless obtain the success it merits. G. MIDDLETON.

* "Sexti Properti Opera Omnia." With a Commentary by H. E. Butler, M.A., Fellow of New College, Oxford. 8s. 6d. net. (Constable and Co., Ltd.)

ESSAYS ON FOUR PLAYS OF EURIPIDES.*

A piece of literary criticism by Dr. Verrall is sure to be interesting, sure to be stimulating, and equally sure to be the target for controversialists. Perhaps no scholar of our time is so *provocative* of challenge as this brilliant writer; and if he cannot altogether vie with Jebb in sureness of touch, or with Butcher in grace of sympathy, one thing is quite clear: he never touches any subject without charging it, so to speak, with the electric movement of his own personality. Few books of our day struck a more novel note than "Euripides the Rationalist," which was issued just ten years ago; and possibly we may be right in saying few books have pushed certain premisses, which are sound in themselves, up to the point of paradox. What was true of the earlier work is equally true of the later, which its author has written as a sequel or pendent. The main interest of "Euripides the Rationalist" lay in its treatment of the "Alcestis" story. The main interest of the present volume lies, perhaps, in its discussion of the "Heracles"—that strange and (as many have deemed) most enigmatic play. We cannot honestly think that the play has ceased to present enigmatical features, even after the extremely clever and ingenious handling to which Dr. Verrall has subjected it; but one thing seems clear—that whereas, viewed from the traditional standpoint, the play, *as a dramatic whole*, is something of a moral monster, it now possesses a moral and spiritual coherence, and a religious significance, which we look for in vain if we read it through the spectacles of literary orthodoxy. Put in the briefest possible compass, what are the salient points of Dr. Verrall's re-interpretation? These: The poet intends us to feel that to the whole cycle of miraculous stories touching Heracles—his birth, his extraordinary and superhuman labours, no faith is, or can be, due. They are not to be taken seriously; they are due to the hero's own wild self-delusions. For Heracles is mad; the victim of hallucinations, the sport of convictions as dire as they are ludicrous. The whole scene, too, where Iris and Madness are introduced, Dr. Verrall conceives to be unreal. These presences are no true apparitions; they are seen but in the visions of their dreamers, and are presented externally for stage purposes, and for this alone. Who are these dreamers? Obviously the Chorus. And Dr. Verrall goes on to point out—and it is surely noteworthy—that, when once the apparition is gone, the Chorus do not believe *nor even remember it*. As regards the Theseus incident, with which the play closes, Dr. Verrall holds that the record of the seeming descent "into Hades" does not, in the intention of Euripides, really refer to any descent into the world of shadows, the habitation of departed souls, "*but to something totally different.*" What, we may naturally ask, was this? Dr. Verrall's answer is that all the dramatist implies is that Theseus was rescued from underground (*νέρθεν*), from a place where there were corpses or dead (*παρὰ νεκρῶν*); and goes on to suggest a cave, or mine, which the two friends may have visited, to be imprisoned there for a time with the victims of a fatal accident (see p. 185).

This does, indeed, seem to be a somewhat lame and unsatisfactory conclusion, we must own; and the critic's further suggestion that the "dog" alluded to in the play (e.g., 1386-8) is not Kerberos at all, but some other (and quite ordinary) dog which Heracles was bringing from Laconia to Eurystheus, strikes one as introducing a somewhat singular anti-climax.

Whatever our views may be, however, no one will be able to read the play henceforth without being influenced, one way or the other, by Dr. Verrall's subtle and ingenious theories.

We have left ourselves no space to discuss, even briefly,

* "Essays on Four Plays of Euripides." By A. W. Verrall, Litt.D. pp. xiii. 292. 7s. 6d. (Cambridge: At the University Press.)

the rest of this fascinating volume; but we may indicate the scope of the remaining essays by giving their titles (the titles are, in themselves, aids to an understanding of the plays criticised):—(1) "A Greek Borgia" ("Andromache"); (2) "Euripides' Apology" ("Helen"); (3) "A Fire from Hell" ("Orestes"). Dr. Verrall's criticism of the much maligned, and still more misunderstood, "Andromache" is, though the briefest in this volume, quite one of the most helpful analyses that he has ever given. His suggestion that the play is not a complete work (as we now have it), but presupposes a lost *first part*, is, we think, entirely just, as well as brilliant and original. E. H. BLAKENEY.

A GRAMMAR OF NEW TESTAMENT GREEK.*

The title is at first sight somewhat misleading. Dr. Moulton intends to bring out shortly a second volume, which will really be based upon the edition of Winer by his late father, Dr. W. F. Moulton; but the present volume is an independent work. It is remarkable in two ways; first, as a highly successful attempt to apply the principles of comparative philology to the question of settling the real nature of New Testament Greek; and, secondly, as the first systematic following out of the great discovery made several years ago by the German scholar Deissmann of the close similarity that exists between the language of the papyri and that of the New Testament. For this work Dr. Moulton possesses ample qualifications. He has already achieved distinction by his contributions to the literature of Indo-European Comparative Philology, and evidence of his eminent fitness for the task he has undertaken is found in every page of the work before us. Dr. Moulton shows very clearly (p. 242) how one of the greatest Semitic scholars of Germany can seriously compromise himself in points relating to Greek; and we agree with him that it is not a bad thing to have introduced into the discussion of New Testament Greek the views of such scholars as Brugmann, Thumb, and Delbrück. In the department of language, Dr. Moulton is, in fact, doing for the New Testament a service similar to that which Professor Ramsay has so brilliantly rendered in the department of history. Deissmann showed conclusively by the evidence of the papyri that the language of the New Testament is simply the current vernacular of ordinary life. Dr. Moulton has worked this out in greater detail, and has confirmed Deissmann's conclusions from an independent investigation of papyri edited since Deissmann's "Bibelstudien" and "Neue Bibelstudien" were published. He does not dwell long on the accidence, though here much of his work is new. The greater part of the book is taken up with a discussion of the syntax of the New Testament; and, with a wealth of quotations from the papyri and the New Testament, the general principles are laid down, which are to form the groundwork of the forthcoming second volume. Dr. Moulton admits that in many parts of the New Testament we have "translation Greek," representing, as closely as may be, the original words of the Aramaic, but proves convincingly—at least to the student of comparative philology—that even these constructions are genuine Greek idioms belonging to the language of common life. He successfully demolishes the theory which assigns a Semitic origin, not only to these usages, but to numerous others found in passages which have never been claimed as derived from Semitic sources.

Chapter VI. (on the Verb, Tenses and Modes of Action) is a very acute and well-reasoned piece of work. Here, as elsewhere, Dr. Moulton's knowledge is equally extensive and accurate. On pp. 205 sqq. we find some good remarks on the infinitive of purpose and its substitutes, and on pp. 213 sqq. on the articular infinitive. But it is needless to particularise where all is good. This important book ought to be in the hands, not only of every student of the New Testament, but also of every student of comparative philology, who will find in every part of the work examples of the application of that science to the language of the New Testament.

We ought to add that Dr. Moulton has succeeded in making his book thoroughly readable. He has not neglected to refer to parallel usages in our own language, and his pages are brightened by occasional flashes of humour. Full and accurate indexes, running to 32 pages, complete the volume. G. MIDDLETON.

* "A Grammar of New Testament Greek." Based on W. F. Moulton's Edition of G. B. Winer's Grammar. By James Hope Moulton, M.A., D.Lit., Late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge; Tutor in New Testament Language and Literature, Wesleyan College, Didsbury. 8s. net. (T. and T. Clark.)

A TRANSLATION OF THE ODYSSEY.*

If it be true that "a good man struggling with adversity" is a sight dear to powers divine, then assuredly the Muses ought to have a special interest in the new Professor of Poetry at Oxford. He is almost a prince among critics of classic verse; no one has a finer sense of poetic excellence or can express it with more delicate grace; nor does he lack the art "Himself to sing and build the lofty rhyme." But by some caprice of fate he has been led to attempt the impossible. He has undertaken and heroically perseveres in the task of translating the Odyssey in a form of verse which it repudiates. A rapid and lively narrative poem of considerable length cannot by any skill be successfully cut up into four-line stanzas. Such stanzas necessarily introduce harsh breaks and irritating pauses, when the reader requires easy smoothness and pleasing continuity. For although light and simple stanzas accommodate themselves to ballad poetry, the twenty-four books of the Odyssey present a very different problem, while the particular form of stanza which Mr. Mackail has selected is wholly unadapted to his purpose. It is the stanza immortalised by Fitzgerald, in which the rhyme at the end of the fourth verse repeats that of the first two, thus giving a sense of compactness and completeness which is exactly suited to an epigram and fatal to a narrative, while the threefold repetition of the same rhyme not only presents immense technical difficulties but also quickly palls upon the ear. A single page of this translation taken at random presents, for example, these rhymes, "feed, indeed, need," "immediately, she, see," "they, array, away," "store, more, before," "clung, strung, wrung," "me, she, sea," and it is obvious that, as the whole translation requires over seven hundred pages, the strain on the translator's ingenuity and his reader's patience must become unbearable. Or look at the havoc which perpetual division into stanzas must work. Here are the famous words in which Achilles records his judgment about life in the world of Shades—

> Μὴ δή μοι θάνατόν γε παραύδα, φαίδιμ' Ὀδυσσεῦ.
> βουλοίμην κ' ἐπάρουρος ἐὼν θητεύεμεν ἄλλῳ,
> ἀνδρὶ παρ' ἀκλήρῳ, ᾧ μὴ βίοτος πολὺς εἴη,
> ἢ πᾶσιν νεκύεσσι καταφθιμένοισιν ἀνάσσειν,

And here is the rendering—

> "Speak not soft words concerning death to me,
> Glorious Odysseus: rather had I be
> A thrall upon the acres to a man
> Portionless and sunk low in poverty,
>
> Than over all the perished dead below
> Hold lordship."

The thought is surely divided and destroyed. The translation is excellent but ineffective, while where vivacity is required the defects of the metre are even more obvious, as the following extract will show:—

> "Sisyphus likewise I beheld: and he
> Endured hard travail and great misery
> While a prodigious stone in both his hands
> Grasping he heaved up hill laboriously
>
> With foot and hand, till when by many a three
> He brought it nigh across the ridge to go,
> A force he might not master turning it,
> Rolled backward plunging to the plain below
>
> The stone that knew no mercy: then he must
> Begin once more the stone up hill to thrust
> With mighty strain, while off his limbs the sweat
> Dropped, and around his head uprose the dust."

The extraordinary vigour of these lines in Homer is known to every schoolboy, but is lost in the translation. The laborious and painful metre is good for getting the stone up hill, but, when it comes to its bounding down again in that wonderful verse, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα πεδόνδε κυλίνδετο λᾶας ἀναιδής, even the device of making it jump the chasm between two stanzas does not give any real sense of life and energy. The translator, in fact, has adopted a metre which does not carry the reader along with it by its own movement. A few pages may be read at intervals with delight, for happy and even brilliant renderings everywhere abound, but it needs an "enduring mind" to follow the long wanderings of Odysseus to a sort of slow march through interminable quatrains.

* "The Odyssey." Translated by J. W. Mackail. Books IX.-XVI. 5s. net. (London: John Murray.)

A COMPANION TO GREEK STUDIES.*

There will be a general agreement among classical scholars that this "Companion," edited by Mr. Whibley for the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press, is one of the most notable and important works issued from that Press in recent years. Its appearance is specially opportune at a time like the present, when the position of Greek studies in the curriculum is so frequently assailed, and the value of Greek as an educational instrument and discipline suited to the times in which we live is called in question.

Mr. Whibley, besides contributing one of the most interesting chapters in the book ("On the Constitutions of Athens and Sparta"), has ably edited the whole work, which runs to 672 pages, and is equipped with four excellent indexes, five maps, and one hundred and forty-one illustrations. We have space only to mention the titles of some of the subjects treated by the numerous contributors, each an acknowledged authority on the subject with which he deals. Here are presented in concise form the leading facts of Greek History, Philosophy and Literature, Mythology, Religion, Law and Constitutional History, Colonisation, Art, and Education. In a work of such scope it is perhaps inevitable that there should be some inequality of treatment, but we know no other book which attempts to place before the student of Greek literature anything like the same mass of facts making up the available sum of knowledge concerning the life and thought of the ancient Greeks. The "Companion" is not a handbook for schools, or a digest prepared for examination purposes, but as a work of reference for advanced students it should find a place in every classical library. It has the characteristic Cambridge quality of thoroughness.

THE SPREADING CHESTNUT TREE.†

Mr. Burn issues a new, enlarged and cheaper edition of his book of children's sayings, collected during the past quarter of a century. In his introduction he falls back on the plea that "there are worse things in the world than chestnuts. They are nuts that never lose their flavour. Time keeps them sweet, and what time preserves is generally worth keeping." But it is also equally true that nothing loses flavour so soon as these "short, funny tails." And in many cases, too, those of Mr. Burn's choice have never had any flavour, except, perhaps, that of mouse and lamp-oil. There is little here of the light humour of Elizabeth's German Garden, of the April baby who swung the kitten round by the tail the while she sang "The King of Love my Shepherd is." But there are old friends one would not willingly forget, as the story of the bishop in the cathedral close, who, taking pity on a little urchin, reached up and gave a good pull at the bell-handle, only to be advised for his pains to "cut and run"; and the reply to the question why God forbade Adam and Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit: "Because He wanted to make preserves of the apples." This last brings to mind a Sunday-school answer, given quite lately, near London, to the question, "What happened in the Garden of Eden?" "Please, sir, lydy stole an apple." A large number of the stories in this book deal with Biblical subjects, and we cannot help thinking that some of them would have been best omitted. Of the classroom tales there is that of the little boy who could not answer quickly because he had a peppermint in his speech, and the other who proposed to tell the difference between the two kinds of carbon, coal and diamond, by asking the price. The following may be new to some readers. Two sentences were given out to be corrected by the younger scholars:

The hen has three legs.
Who done it?

One of the children evidently divined some connection between the two, for his answer was: "The hen didn't do it; God done it."

A manager asked the question: "If I bored a hole right through the earth till I came out at the other side, where should I be?" The answer came promptly: "Off your 'ead, sir! you can't do it."

There is a pretty story of the four-year-old child who looked at a bright-eyed lady intently for some time, and then asked: "Are your eyes new ones?" And the remark of one of two children who were trying to sit on a small stool is business-like: "Don't you think if one of us got down there would be more room for me?"

The following anecdotes have their own explosive effects:

Hostess: "Charlie, can you cut your own meat?"

Charlie: "Why, of course I can. I've cut up as tough meat as this at home."

A clergyman met a little girl, and, regarding her thoughtfully and solemnly, said: "Child, do you know who made that vile body of yours?"

"Yes, sir; mother made the body, and I made the skirt."

And it was a magistrate who asked a young culprit: "Do you know where little boys go who are wicked enough to play marbles on Sunday?"

"Yes, your Vorship. Some on 'em goes to the common, and some on 'em goes down to the sea-beach."

"What is the meaning of Amen?" "Toime to shut up."

It is high time somebody made a collection of teachers' sayings.

MR. JUSTICE RIDLEY'S "LUCAN."*

There is a delightful touch of the eighteenth century in the idea of a Judge of the High Court lightening his labours with the translation of a Latin poet, and the appearance of a new edition of Sir Edward Ridley's "Lucan" is probably sufficient proof that even in the twentieth century interest in this scholarly pastime is not dead. It is just ten years since the first edition was published, and meanwhile Sir Edward has in the true Horatian manner gone over his work *verso calamo*, giving his translation the benefit of new lights, either as he discovered them for himself, or as he found them in more recent commentaries. How far he has succeeded, as he hoped, in conveying the spirit of the original may be questioned; but he is at least readable, and those who know "The Pharsalia" only from his pages will at any rate understand something of Lucan the rhetorician. This, of course, is a great deal, for the poet was rhetorical even to a vice. But he was something more. He possessed a weird and fantastic power of imagery, a mastery over the lurid and the ghastly, demanding a decadent luxuriance of phrase and poetic temperament to which Sir Edward is scarcely equal. One turns, by way of touchstone, to the scene where Sextus Pompeius consults the witch Erichtho, and although that "Pharmaceutria" run mad has been translated with considerable skill, it just falls short of the right weirdness of effect. The forensic has its limitations even for judges, but here Lucan, rhetorician though he was, outstripped them, and was the poet. He is too horrible perhaps for the highest art, but he stage-manages his horrors well. He had no friendly Tytler, as Burns had, to bid him leave out his worst abominations of black-magic, and for this good disciples of John Wellington Wells will be grateful. But a catalogue of grim enchantments is one thing, a poem is another. The translator gives us little more than the former, and, short of Mr. Swinburne, there is no one to do this passage of Lucan into English that will rightly reflect the original. In epigram Lucan excelled, and here Sir Edward might have been expected to find the happy phrase. But even

"Victrix causa deis placuit, sed victa Catoni"

refuses to crystallise on his pen, and is all but disguised in:—

"Each for his cause can vouch a judge supreme,
The victor, heaven; the vanquished, Cato, thee."

Here, alas! the judge is not supreme; but it would be unfair to conclude from these criticisms of detail that the work is without merit. From a task almost hopelessly arduous, Sir Edward has come out with a very large measure of success, and his book will at least reawaken interest in a fascinating and too little known figure in Roman literature. The moment is not inopportune; for even the least classically disposed among us have just been reminded of Nero's jealousy of rival poets, and they may like to know what manner of singer was this Lucan, who first beat the Cæsar in a contest and was forbidden to publish his verses (if the story be true), and then (which is certainly true), having scarified him ambiguously in the Pharsalia, joined Piso's conspiracy against him. For this the youth, he was but twenty-six, had Imperial orders to take his own life. He sought pardon by every abject plea, but in vain. As he lay in his bath, with opened veins, he repeated to his friends some of his own lines, probably those describing the death

* "A Companion to Greek Studies." Edited by L. Whibley, M.A., University Lecturer in Ancient History. (Cambridge University Press.)

† "Children's Answers." Collected by John Henry Burn, B.D., F.R.S.E. New and Enlarged Edition. (A. Treherne and Co., Ltd.)

* "The Pharsalia of Lucan Translated into Blank Verse." By Sir Edward Ridley. Second Edition, Revised and Corrected. 14s. (Longmans, Green and Co.)

of a centurion whose body was rent asunder in the sea-fight at Massilia. This passage Sir Edward translates:—

". . . all his veins
Were torn asunder and the stream of life
Gushed o'er his limbs till lost amid the waves,
From no man dying has the vital breath
Rushed by so wide a path."

"Vital breath," one fears, will scarcely do here as change for

"Nullius vita perempti
Est tanta dimissa via,"

although "vital flood" might have passed. But why not simply say "life"? There is no need to make Lucan more turgid than he is.

BRITAIN'S SEA STORY*

This little book is, as its editors claim, the first to give a simple, concise account of British ships and sea-exploits from early times to the great day on which our sovereignty of the seas was assured, at Trafalgar. Its method is as excellent as it is unique; and it should certainly be in the hands of every schoolboy. It is not only a text-book, but also an anthology of the very best and simplest things that have been written about our national sea power. The building of the ships of different periods is described with the help of many delightful illustrations; and the romance of the subject is brought out by many quotations of the poets, from Beowulf to Campbell. The chapter on the war frenzy of the Vikings is from the pen of Fiona Macleod; the loss of the White Ship is from the pen of Robert Southey; and some of the battle scenes are translated from the old sagas. It contains Robert Thorne's Declaration or Exhortation to Henry VIII. with regard to the discovery of "divers new lands and kingdoms, in the which without doubt your Grace shall win perpetual glory and your subjects infinite profit." Many of the Elizabethan voyages are extracted from the magical pages of Hakluyt. There is Raleigh's own account of his adventures on the Orinoco; and there are extracts, delightfully chosen from "Purchas His Pilgrimes," including Drake's voyage round the world, and that most interesting letter of Will Adams, from whom the Japanese first learnt the art of building vessels after European plans, vessels large and strong enough to face the Pacific Ocean. John Evelyn, Dryden, and a dozen other writers, each of them contemporary with the events which they describe, are drawn upon; and the result is a book which is as fascinating to the general reader as it must be valuable for educational purposes. It is complete in every way, and altogether the best book of its kind we have seen. On this particular subject, indeed, it is the only book of its kind; and the boy or man who reads it will have at his finger-tips the very flowers of our naval history, flowers of language and literature, collected from those rare chronicles which every Englishman would like to read, but seldom does read, for the simple reason that this—as we said above—is the first book of its kind.

Cabot sailing Westward.

(From a Painting by R. Morton Nance, reproduced in "Britain's Sea Story.")

* "Britain's Sea-Story." Edited by E. E. Speight and R. Morton Nance. 2s. net. (Hodder and Stoughton.)

Here is a charmingly simple and humorous description of an incident in Drake's famous voyage, taken from "Purchas His Pilgrimes":—

"From hence we went to a certain port, called Tarapaxa, where, being landed, we found by the seaside a Spaniard lying asleep, who had lying by him thirteen bars of silver, which weighed four thousand ducats Spanish; we took the silver and left the man."

From the educational point of view it should be a godsend; for it is adapted, in its absolute literary simplicity, to readers of all ages; and the anthological method gives an extraordinarily vivid impression of the progress of things. It is a golden treasury of the sea; and an invaluable adjunct to all the ordinary historical text-books.

ALFRED NOYES.

AN IMPERIAL READER.*

Mr. Pember Reeves and Mr. Speight are to be congratulated on the excellence of their idea of compiling a class book for educational purposes which will give in a picturesque form an adequate account of the regions of the British Empire. And they have combined with this the idea of indicating at the same time the differing phases and problems of British imperial administration. The execution of this plan has been admirably carried out. The Empire has been divided into eight natural geographical sections: to each section is prefixed a brief introduction, historical and descriptive of the region in question, which prepares the way for the illustrative excerpts that follow; and in most cases the selection of these excerpts has been obviously determined by the desire to amplify and strengthen the features dwelt on in the introduction, as well as to explain the peculiar geographical, historical, or climatic conditions. The Editors have exercised in their selections a wide and most commendable latitude of choice. The reader who turns over these pages will find appropriate passages from the classic masters of science, such as Charles Darwin, great soldiers like Lord Wolseley, great administrators like Lord Milner, great travellers like Baker or Johnston, brilliant men of letters like Froude; and they will probably not be sorry that so familiar a friend to the boyhood of twenty years ago such as R. M. Ballantyne has not been forgotten, together with many others who have made or are making their names in imperial administration. This class book, then, should prove very useful to all schoolmasters and may well serve a double purpose. Physical geography in its widest sense is every day being recognised as the indispensable basis of all sound teaching, whether in purely political and descriptive or in historical geography proper. The pages of this little volume will certainly help to make explicit and interesting what is inexplicit in the orographical map, and to bring before boys and girls in a concrete form the actual results which are cartographically registered in the atlas. Equally useful will be its help in making clear the complexity and character of the imperial problem as it exists to-day. Knowledge of the factors and

* "The Imperial Reader." Edited by Hon. W. P. Reeves and E. E. Speight. 2s. 6d. net. (London: Hodder and Stoughton.) 1906.

their meaning cannot surely begin too early, and if it can be done by introducing young students to some of the best literature available for students of imperial history, could a better beginning be made? Used in conjunction with, or as a preparation to, such a volume as Mr. George's "Historical Geography of the British Empire," and properly reinforced by careful study above all of orographical maps, this volume will clothe the dry bones with just the right flesh and blood, and lead up to the use of Mr. Lucas' standard work. Two suggestions I would offer to the Editors for their second edition. First, an increase of the illustrations. There are sixteen at present, all good of their kind. I should like to see not less than fifty, and perhaps a hundred, not necessarily full-page ones. Costumes and institutions alone provide an embarrassing material of choice, and what of the fauna and flora? Secondly, would it be possible to rearrange the sections in something like their true chronological order of their subject matter?

Even an elementary study of the steps by which the Empire has been pieced together is the best of all ways for teaching instructive lessons as to the reasons and objects of that process.

C. GRANT ROBERTSON.

Notes on New School Books.

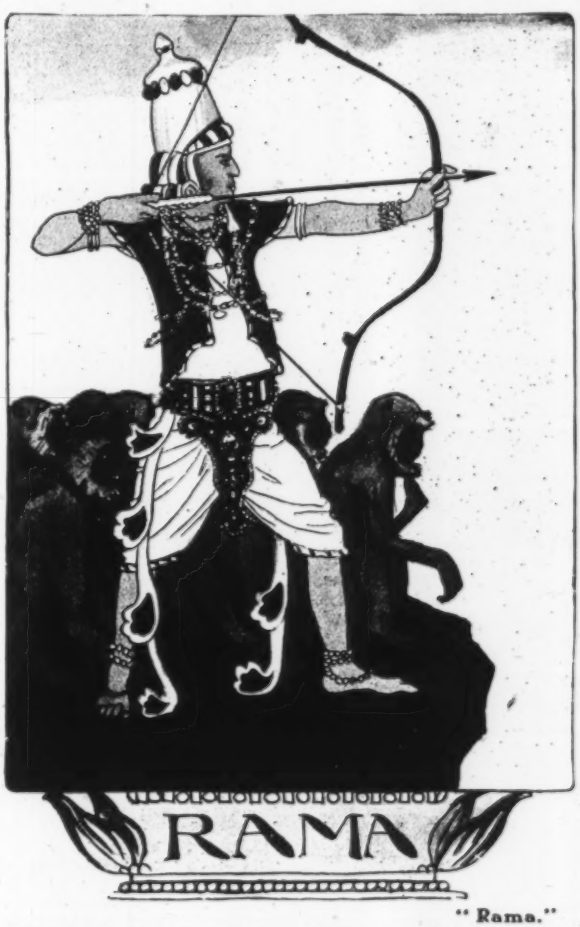
English Texts, Readers, etc.

MR. EDWARD ARNOLD.

LINGUA MATERNA. Chapters on the School Teaching of English. By Richard Wilson, B.A. 3s. 6d.

When "English" is assigned its rightful place in the time-tables of our schools Mr. Wilson's book will have the greatest practical value for teachers. But at present the curious idea still prevails that, being English, we naturally know English, and that to devote any thought to the study of it would be sheer waste of time. Mr. Wilson classifies the subject in three divisions: (1) Grammar and word-study; (2) composition, written and oral, including paraphrase and précis-writing; (3) reading and the study of literature. There are capital schemes of work for pupils from eight to sixteen. The teacher of English must love his work and his subject, and the last chapter sets forth what should be his equipment. We heartily recommend this book to the consideration of teachers of English. It is full of most helpful suggestions, and should be placed on the shelves of every school library.

The excellently conceived and well-executed series entitled "Steps to Literature," includes "Tales of the Homeland" (10d.), "Tales of Many Lands" (1s.), "Stories from English Literature" (1s. 3d.), "Stories from British Literature" (1s. 6d.), "Readings on the Empire" (1s. 6d.), "Readings on Europe" (1s. 6d.), and "Glimpses of World Literature" (1s. 6d.). All these books have a distinguished appearance by reason of the care that has been spent on the illustrations. Mr. Gilbert James is responsible for many of those in the first two volumes; the rest are reproductions of famous pictures, selected in many cases, as the publishers say, not to illustrate the text, but to introduce the pupil to a few great names in European art, just as the prose and verse selections introduce him to a few great names in literature. This was the plan originally followed by Mr. Speight in his "Temple Readers," and it is rather a pity that the compiler of these volumes, especially the last one, should not have been more independent of the selected authors and passages appearing in the "Temple Readers." In the matter of wealth of illustration, and artistic merit of the pictures chosen, these "Steps to Literature" are unique among school-books. Some of the foreign poetry quoted in Book II. has suffered in the process of translation: "Shall but to wither my stem be broke?" on page 63 is not English.



"Rama."

(Reproduced from "Steps to Literature," Book II., by kind permission of Mr. Edward Arnold.)

ARNOLD'S ENGLISH TEXTS. Shakespeare's "Tempest," "Macbeth," and "King Henry V." 6d. each.

These are well-printed texts of the plays, with a short glossary containing those archaic or unusual words which have been found by experience to require explanation, for pupils using the plays for reading purposes only. These volumes may also be recommended to those teachers who prefer to place a plain text in the hands of their pupils, and to make their own commentaries.

The Arnold Prose Books are a series of twenty-four neatly-printed paper-covered booklets of 48 pages each, selling at twopence. They range from Mallory to H. W. Emerson, as the publisher prefers to call them repeatedly in his lists, and they include selections from Lord Berners' Froissart, Bacon, Addison, Boswell and Johnson, Goldsmith, Burke, Lamb, Leigh Hunt, Southey's Nelson, Macaulay, Irving, Carlyle, Gibbon, Motley, Prescott, Napier, Thackeray, Borrow and Froude. They form handy pocket companions for a journey, and their only fault is their limited size. They are the beginning of such a series as every publisher dreams of, but few dare venture upon outside Germany.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

THE TRAGEDY OF CORIOLANUS. Edited for the Use of Students by A. W. Verity, M.A. 3s.

The student will find within the covers of this volume all that he requires for a careful study of the play. The notes and other editorial matter fill over 200 pages, the text of the play requiring 130. The introduction, which contains a most interesting chapter on "Elizabethan Colouring in 'Coriolanus,'" makes continual reference to modern critics like Professor Bradley and George Brandes and Mr. Wyndham. The analysis of the drama, placed at the beginning of each scene, is most helpful to the right understanding of the action of the play. But Mr. Verity's students' editions of Shakespeare's plays are so well known that praise of them is needless here.

MESSRS. CASSELL AND CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. Cassell issue five little sixpenny books in their "Fairy Tale Series." They are bound in limp cloth and illustrated by coloured plates and line drawings. Books I. and II. are entitled "Fairy Tales for Little Folks," and include the usual English favourites; Books III. and IV. are collections of stories from Grimm and Andersen respectively; Book IV. has stories of King Arthur. Some of the illustrations are quite exciting groupings of colours; the line drawings vary in quality. These little books ought to be great favourites in and out of school; they are charming in every way, and form a capital nucleus for a child's library.

The same publishers have sent us a reprint of Miss Buckland's "Story of English Literature" (3s. 6d.), with additional chapters by Miss Christabel Coleridge, bringing the work down to the close of the Victorian era. This would no doubt prove an acceptable prize or gift-book for girls; in school it might be used to supplement the more modern

primers of English Literature. For students it is admittedly out-of-date; the section on Old English Literature does faint justice to its subject, and with regard to many authors of the utmost importance, such as Layamon, there is no sign of knowledge at first hand. There are few studies in which it is more necessary to be in line with modern research than that of English Literature. This popular little book, beginning with some account of the Celtic Bards, of Caedmon, Bede, and the early romances and chronicles, now concludes with a paragraph on Robert Louis Stevenson. Long extracts from, and paraphrases of, the works mentioned, occupy a large amount of space. The story flows smoothly and pleasantly; the language is simple, though, as might be expected, not without occasional lapses into "grown-up" thought and phrase. The closing sentence will give an excellent idea of the tone throughout: "Here we leave the story of our English Literature, lifting up our hearts in thanks to God for its glorious heritage, and setting forth with the courage that springs from faith to carry on the new work of a new day." Perhaps this also explains why sixty-five pages are devoted to Milton, writer of "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained," and sixteen only to Shakespeare. For those who wish to leaven the history of English Literature with a certain amount of explicit religious teaching, this little volume can be highly recommended. Perusal of the book does not, however, lessen our conviction of the inadvisability of attempting to give new life to obsolete text-books merely by adding a few chapters. Since Miss Buckland wrote the book, the teaching of English in schools has been revolutionised.

THE CLARENDON PRESS.

Mr. Percy Simpson, of St. Olave's Grammar School, has arranged, as an introduction to Shakespeare, a volume of "Scenes from Old Plays" (2s. 6d.). The greater number of the plays chosen are Shakespeare's own historical ones, but there are scenes from Fletcher's "Bonduca," Marlowe's "Edward II.," Heywood's "Edward IV.," Ford's "Perkin Warbeck," Massinger's "The Custom of the Country," and Marston's "What you Will." They have been edited with the greatest care, solely with an eye to young readers, and there is a lavish supply of stage-notes, which certainly add movement to the scenes as one reads. The introduction on "A Shakespearian Play" and "Shakespeare's Theatre" will be very attractive reading for the children themselves, and we are pleased to find the recognition, so strongly insisted upon by Professor Raleigh, of the brave deeds of Shakespeare's naval contemporaries, and their influence upon the literature of his time. As Mr. Simpson says: "For a band of brothers they had only to look to the seamen of the time, men like Drake, who sailed into the Pacific, which Spain thought closed to Englishmen; Frobisher and Davis, whose names are on the map where they pushed their way into the Arctic ice; Richard Grenville, who fought the great fight of the one ship against the fifty-three; Lord Howard of Effingham, who destroyed the proud fleet of Spain. Men like these stirred the nation into a belief that Englishmen could go anywhere and do anything." This book, like all issued from the Clarendon Press, is delightful to handle and read by reason of its light paper and well-chosen types.

MR. W. B. CLIVE.

A TEXT-BOOK OF PRECIS-WRITING. By T. C. Jackson, B.A., LL.B., and John Briggs, M.A. 2s. 6d.

The manual is primarily intended for candidates for the various examinations of which précis-writing forms a part. But it is fast being recognised that the study is of advantage also to the commercial or professional man. He finds it a great saving of time to be able to grasp at once the salient points of an article or a book. Instructions are therefore given in indexing, in making précis of commercial and legal documents, in the special kind of précis-writing required by journalists, and in digesting returns into summaries. Of course, in such matters, it is practice that makes perfect, but a book of this sort is full of valuable help and hints.

MESSRS. HODDER AND STOUGHTON.

A NATURE READER FOR SENIOR STUDENTS. Edited by the Hon. Sir John Cockburn and E. E. Speight. 2s. net.

In their introduction to this book, the editors remind us of the Renaissance in Education, and the important part which Nature study takes in it. In Nature study, the first and finest part, and the most impossible in towns, is the enjoyment and observation of things out-of-doors; the second is the reading of books. But what is the end proposed by those who pursue and recommend this study? If it is only to preserve the mind for a few years from the blind and universal proselytising of good and bad books, it is much. But the editors, quoting from Coleridge, Browning, Sterne, Bacon, Sir Thomas Browne, Lowell, Whitman, Emerson, and Mr. Robert Bridges, urge that Nature study, appealing to the heart as well as to the intelligence, tends to inspire a deeply religious sentiment, and may, in a practical age, help towards the necessary cultivation of poetic feeling and imagination. That Nature fosters the imagination seems to be proved by the fact that in England all the greatest poets have been great in nothing more conspicuously than in the interpretation of Nature; it is the most striking quality which they have in common. And here in this book are many of the finest passages from English and American poetry, both in verse and prose, for young and old lovers of Nature, "who need the help and example of lofty minds to translate the mass of their information into a nobler and more permanent possession." Apart from its purpose, even, the book is a charming anthology, prepared with no ordinary discrimination, as may be judged from the list of authors, which includes not only all the obvious names from Chaucer to Jefferies, but also such names as Pastoral Browne, Arthur Young, Audubon, John Burroughs, Mangan, Mr. Bridges and Mr. Alfred Noyes. When to these are added the names of Turner, Miller, Corot, Walker, Morland, and others, whose pictures are reproduced, it will be clear that the book is one of the best possible of its kind.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.

Messrs. Longmans' "Class-books of English Literature" are well bound in orange-tawny cloth, and clearly printed in types very suitable to the eyes of school-children. The prices range from sixpence for a book of "Paradise Lost" to eighteenpence for Scott's "Marmion," and the series includes "The Lays of Ancient Rome," the first chapter of Macaulay's "History of England," "The Lady of the Lake," "The Lay of the Last Minstrel," and abridged editions of "The Talisman," "A Legend of Montrose," and "Ivanhoe." It is with feelings of pleasant surprise that we come across editions of William Morris for school use. The tale of "The Man Born to be King" (from "The Earthly Paradise") has an interesting anonymous introduction on William Morris and his poetical method, and "The Story of the Glittering Plain" is given in the broad page and old-faced type with which readers of Morris are familiar. There is nothing in the range of English school-books which we can more confidently recommend to teachers than these two books, with their love of all things beautiful in Nature, and their rich stories of word and phrase. The cheapest book in the whole series is the "Tales of King Arthur" (1s.), adapted from Mr. Lang's "Book of Romance," with twenty striking pictures by Mr. H. J. Ford.

The same publishers issue a notable set of reading-books, entitled "The British Empire Readers." This is a somewhat misleading title, and is obviously not intended to describe the contents. With the exception of the sentences in the first and second primer, which are of the obsolete "Has the hen a den? No, the hen has a pen" type, we have nothing but praise for these very pretty books, with the charming coloured and plain illustrations and their fund of really interesting reading matter. The reproduction of a picture by G. C. Hindley, on page 38 of the Introductory Reader, is a model of colour-work for school-books. The literary extracts in Books IV., V., and VI. are well chosen from the mass of books in which the firm enjoy copyright from earlier writers, and the preference is given to stories and poems dealing with outdoor life and adventure. Thus Book VI. contains long pieces by Conan Doyle, Kipling, Captain Marryat, Dr. Fitchett, Rider Haggard, Charles and Henry Kingsley, Captain Mayne Reid, Parkman, Henty, and others. The books are in a high degree worthy of the attention of teachers in elementary schools.

To those teachers who still retain a belief in the value of grammar as a subject of instruction for little children, Messrs. Longmans' "Elementary Lessons in English" (1s. 6d.), by Mr. Arthur T. Bott, M.A., will prove welcome. The aim of the book is the teaching of elementary English theoretically through formal grammar and practically through composition, by bringing these two branches of the subject into relation, and causing each to illustrate and assist the other. In those schools where grammar is no longer taught directly, the book may be profitably used in connection with literature lessons; but in this case we should advise its being regarded only as a help to the teacher, and not as a class-book for the students.

The latest volumes of the "Swan" Shakespeare for use in schools (1s. each) are: "Much Ado," edited by Robert Williamson, M.A.; "Twelfth Night," edited by Alfred L. Cann, B.A.; "The Tempest," edited by G. W. Stone, M.A.; "As You Like It," edited by W. Dyche, B.A.; "Henry V.," edited by D. Ferguson, M.A.; and "The Winter's Tale," edited by T. Geo. Wright. Each volume opens with a brief life of Shakespeare, illustrated topographically. This is followed by an introduction which, after dealing with the source, date, story and general characteristics of the particular play, has some observations, common to all the volumes, on "Elizabethan language," "Shakespearean grammar," and "Versification." The notes at the end are adequate and interesting. The text of the play is illustrated by modern drawings of varying excellence, but those in "Twelfth Night," by Grenville Manton, may be mentioned as of special charm. The books are beautifully printed, and cannot fail to delight the youthful student into whose hands they may fall.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED.

It is sufficient to remark that Mrs. Beesley's **Stories from the History of Rome** has now reached its eleventh edition to show that this charming little collection of stories still continues to supply a real want. The whole book is just what children want. It is light and handy in size, the print is clear, and the language is so simple that it can be easily understood by the very youngest child. The stories here told have been selected with a definite purpose. The author's object has evidently been to illustrate the two sentiments most characteristic of the ancient Roman temperament and discipline—duty to their parents and duty to their country. She has further shown, as, for example, in the stories of the Horatii and the Curatii and Brutus and his sons and others, that of these two sentiments duty to their country was felt to be the more important. A few months ago a certain titled lady raised a storm amongst certain classes of individuals by declaring that everlasting fairy-stories were not the best food on which to bring up a child's mind. Many of the tales contained in this little volume are, no doubt, pure myths; but they are true in a more real sense than many a well-attested but less characteristic fact, and they, at any rate, had great influence in creating the virtues they recorded amongst one of the greatest nations the world is ever likely to see. We do not for a minute mean to insinuate that these stories are "improving"—so to label them would be to damn them in the eyes of most children—but we can say, none the less, that the reading of these old Roman tales would not only have their moral effect upon most nurseries, but would be of the greatest advantage to these same children subsequently, when they came to translate the authors from which they are taken. As the Roman poet, Horace, says: "He gains every vote who combines the useful with the pleasant."

English Literature for Secondary Schools is the general title of an attractive series of linen-covered reprints, issued under the general editorship of Mr. J. H. Fowler, of Clifton College. They include Macaulay's essays on Addison, Clive, and Sir William Temple, Scott's "Ivanhoe" and "Talisman," and selections from Addison and Longfellow; and of fresher interest are the two volumes of "Ballads, Old and New," edited by Mr. H. B. Cotterill, Miss Charlotte M. Yonge's "Book of Golden Weeds," and Miss Sophia H. Maclehose's "Tales from Spenser." The last-named volume contains the stories of Una and the Lion, Una and the Prince, Una and the Dragon, Britomart and the Mirror, Britomart and Amoret, Braggadochio, How Britomart found Artyal, and Calidore and Pastorella. "The Fairy Queen" is a poem which readily lends itself to prose transcription, and Miss Maclehose's delicate setting has every chance of remaining the standard prose setting of these stories. Miss M. R. Earle edits "The Heroes of Asgard," and Mr. J. S. Peppin has written a short introduction and notes to Mr. Aubrey Stewart's "The Tale of Troy Acted in English." The volumes in this series are graduated with special reference to the scheme of the Board of Education for the teaching of English; they are provided with such annotations only as may help to an intelligent appreciation of the text; and in some cases they are simply illustrated. The price of the books varies from 1s. to 1s. 6d.

A BOOK OF BALLADS. 1s. 6d.

The editor, Miss C. L. Thomson, following the suggestion in a recent syllabus of the Board of Education that English ballads would be a good subject for the first year's instruction in English, has made a collection of such poems, dating from "Hind Horn" (second half of 13th century) to Henry Newbolt's "The Fighting Téméraire." The poems are chosen with the fine literary taste for which this editor is well known. There are no notes, but the book contains a short glossary of unusual or obsolete words, and some excellent directions to teachers as to the best method of using the book.

MESSRS. HORACE MARSHALL AND SONS.

MARLOWE. "The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Doctor Faustus," from the Quarto of 1616. Edited by Mrs. J. S. Turner (Miss Agnes Ward). 8d.

Besides the text there are a few cursory notes of varying usefulness, some obvious examination questions, and a very brief list of books recommended for further study. As Marlowe's "Faustus" is not likely to be studied except by advanced students, it is perhaps one of the cases in which full editorial matter of a scholarly sort would be valuable. But a good text of "Faustus" at so low a price should make its appeal outside the walls of the schoolroom.

SPENSER. The Faerie Queene. Book I. Edited by C. L. Thomson. 1s. 4d.

This book is intended primarily for the pupil. There is a brief introduction, containing a biographical notice of Spenser, some observations on the allegory and on the versification. The notes are incorporated in a glossary. For the benefit of the teacher there are the usual examination questions and a brief list of books recommended for the further study of Spenser and his poetry. This is all doubtless very excellent, but we look forward to a time when our teachers of "English" will only require their pupils to be provided with the bare text, and will do the rest themselves.

SHAKESPEARE: KING HENRY IV. Part II. Edited by J. W. B. Adams, M.A. 1s.

This edition is on the same lines as the "Faerie Queene," noticed above. Critical matter for the use of the teacher is relegated to an appendix, and there are eight sets of questions for examination.

HAKLUYT'S ENGLISH VOYAGES. Selected and Edited with Introduction, Notes, and Glossary, by E. E. Speight, B.A., F.R.G.S. With a Preface by Sir Clements Markham, K.C.B., F.R.S. 2s. 6d.

Mr. Speight has here compiled a delightful reading-book, which should also prove an excellent introduction to the study of geography. The notes, glossary, and bibliography are all that can be desired, and the illustrations and maps, by R. Morton Nance, will doubtless enhance the interest of the volume for young readers.

THE NEW TEMPLE READER. Edited by E. E. Speight, B.A. 1s. 6d. net.

This is intended to form an introduction to the comparative study of literature, to illustrate the main stream of literature down the centuries. It begins with Dr. Wallis Bridge's translation of the hymn to the Egyptian Sun-god, Ra, and ends with De Quincey's "Revolt of the Tartars." The largest space is given to English Literature, but there are passages from the literature of Greece, Rome, Italy, and France, from the literature of the Germanic peoples and of the Celts. Before each extract is a brief quotation, in prose or verse, from some well-known critic bearing on the author in question or on his work. For instance, before the extract from Homer we have some reflections of Newman and of Carlyle on the Classics generally, and Andrew Lang's sonnet on the Odyssey. Indeed, in a book of some 285 pages, the index of authors runs to over 300 names. The impression left on our minds is that of a long series of brief passages, such as we might find in the commonplace book of a scholar and a man of taste collected at leisure during many years' reading of many books. Such a book put into the hands of a schoolboy or schoolgirl would, we fear, cause dire mental confusion. It is a pity that those who compile our English readers do not take example by the German readers in use in German schools. There it is the custom to take a subject, say Luther, or printing, or the Franco-German War of 1870, and to group together a number of fairly long extracts from famous writers dealing with different portions or aspects of it. Let us strive to keep the evil fashion of reading in snippets outside our schools.

THE DE LA MORE PRESS.

In Professor Gollancz's "King's Classics," the most beautiful set of reprints now being issued, appears Professor Skeat's translation into modern English of **The Vision of Piers the Plowman** (1s. 6d. net). Professor Skeat's plan has been to reproduce the general impression which the old poem would make upon one familiar with the old language, and at the same time to avoid, as far as possible, all obsolete words and phrases. It is claimed that the version agrees with the original line for line, and in many lines it reproduces it word for word. The following extract will give a fair idea of the style of the version:—

> "'I've been covetous,' quoth that caitiff, 'I confess it here;
> For some time I served old Sin-at-the-Still,
> And was plighted his 'prentice, his profit to serve.
> First learnt I, in lying, a lesson or twain;
> Wickedly to weigh was my first lesson;
> To Weyhill and Winchester I went to the fair
> With all manner of wares, as my master bade;
> If Guile had not given some grace to my ware,
> It still had been unsold, were it seven years since!'"

In school, the book would provide interesting passages illustrative of history; it is not intended for children themselves.

MR. JOHN MURRAY.

A SCHOOL MANUAL OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR, with Exercises and Examination Questions. By Theophilus D. Hall, M.A. 2s. 6d.

The original edition of this book was published in 1872. The present issue is to a large extent a new book, yet following closely the original lines. The chapter on the alphabet has been entirely re-written, with a view to giving the student just so much of the elements of phonetics as will enable him to get a firm grasp of the main principles of the science. A fuller treatment has also been accorded to the origin of the English language, its philological relations with other languages, its indebtedness to various foreign strains, and its historical development. The whole forms as good a compendium of English grammar as can possibly be wished.

MESSRS. T. NELSON AND SONS.

We have received two volumes of **Nelson's Literature Readers,** edited by Dr. Richard Garnett, C.B. Book II. is arranged for use as Book VII. of the publishers' "Royal Readers." The two volumes form a miscellaneous collection of extracts, and many of the great names, from Spenser to Browning and Gilbert White to Richard Jefferies, are here. But we hardly think that the publishers have tried to do justice to Dr. Garnett's selection, for they have printed the volumes in old-fashioned style, and illustrated them with little taste. The volumes compare unfavourably in this respect with those in Messrs. Nelson and Sons' Geographical series, which we have noticed elsewhere.

MESSRS. GEORGE ROUTLEDGE AND SONS.

PUNCTUATION: Its Principles and Practice. By T. F Husband, M.A., and M. F. A. Husband, B.A. 2s. 6d.

A somewhat elaborate and exhaustive treatment of a much-neglected subject, this little volume bristles with authorities and footnotes and definitions. It is rather a history of punctuation from the time when writing first began, than a practical *vade mecum* for the ignorant. The wise author leaves punctuation to his printer, who invariably prides himself on having at his fingers' ends the most up-to-date method; the ordinary man eschews anything beyond an occasional full-stop, and the typist tries to forget that stops have any existence.

MESSRS. SEELEY AND CO., LIMITED.

Homer: The Story of the Iliad (1s.), with illustrations after Flaxman, is the well-known paraphrase of Professor A. J. Church. In this pretty edition it forms a neat little volume, particularly suitable for use in schools, albeit the type is rather small. In view of the fact that the Story of the Iliad is among the subjects suggested by the Board of Education for the first year's course in English, Messrs. Seeley are to be congratulated on the timely re-issue of this children's classic.

Dean Church's **Story of the Odyssey** (1s.) is one of those books which ought to be placed in the hands of every "young person." The "grown-up," of course, nowadays reads the beautiful translation made by Butcher and Lang, but the child would be apt to tire of that book, perhaps, before finishing it, and could, naturally, have no proper appreciation of its exquisite scholarship and diction. Church's story, therefore, does not really compete with that by Butcher and Lang. Frankly, it is not intended that it should. The present edition is just as good a shillingsworth as any parent could invest in. The book is tastefully got up; the type is clear and good, and the text is, lastly, very much improved by numerous excellent illustrations after Flaxman. The whole book, in short, is admirably fitted to prepare the ground, and whet the appetite for the time when either the original or Butcher and Lang's translation is first taken down from the shelf.

Latin and Greek.

MR. EDWARD ARNOLD.

There should be a ready demand for the series of **Arnold's Latin Texts** (8d. apiece) under the general editorship of Mr. A. Evans Bernays. The books are, of course, extremely elementary, and the individual editors have in general selected the easiest and most interesting passages from their authors. Each volume is prefaced by a brief life of the author, and, in the case of poets, explanations of the metres are added. No notes are given, but the different selections are headed by a general synopsis, and the vocabulary at the end is occasionally amplified into something beyond the mere meaning of the word translated. Of those books in the series which we have read we should be inclined to put Cicero's Pro Archia, by Margaret Brock, and Mr. J. C. Stobart's selections from Virgil at the top, as showing, perhaps, the best appreciation of what is wanted. The cheapness of the books is admirable. It is useless to provide comparatively expensive selections, which in a few terms must be discarded by boys and girls for a complete text with full critical notes.

Altogether more elaborate is the edition of the twenty-sixth book of "Livy" (2s. 6d.), prepared by Mr. R. M. Henry. Mr. Henry explains that the book "aims at satisfying the needs of both Pass and Honours candidates" in the Royal University of Ireland, and hopes that this "will be taken as a sufficient excuse for a certain inequality of standard in the notes." The excuse is superfluous. The notes are excellent, and there is no trace of padding. The value of the book is increased by two appendices, dealing with Hannibal's Route from Capua to Rome and with a description of New Carthage, and the general introduction is a model of what such introductions should be. The few pages devoted to a critique of Livy's style and method as a historian are first-rate, and we are glad to see that the editor has not found himself compelled, because he was editing Livy, to champion his idiosyncrasies indiscriminately. In Livy the Roman is always the soul of honour and nobility, the Carthaginian a treacherous villain. Unless these and other inaccurate statements are attended to as Mr. Henry has attended to them, it becomes difficult for the pupil to reconcile what he learns from Livy with what he reads in his history.

MESSRS. GEORGE BELL AND SONS.

Like the original book by the same authors, of which this is in the main an abbreviation, **Bell's Concise Latin Course** (2s.), by Messrs. E. C. Marchant and J. G. Spencer, is intended to teach its subject by the inductive method. The beginner is led from the known to the unknown, from the concrete to the abstract. As opposed to many similar books, which have become bywords for the nonsense they contain, this volume is filled with interesting, coherent exercises, and at times we find subjects amusing as well as instructive. In these and one or two other points the two books are identical. On the other hand, we notice that in this volume all the grammar is collected at the beginning, and does not precede the exercises as before, that the illustrations have been omitted, and that the stems of verbs have been arranged upon a different principle. The massing together of the grammar certainly helps the correlation of sentence construction, translation, vocabulary and grammar, and the new arrangement of verb stems enables the endings of the different persons, in the conjugation of the present stem tenses, to be more easily grasped. Altogether, we think that this new book is more serviceable even than its prototype. The three parts of the original course have been compressed into one volume, the exercises have been boldly pruned down, and at the same time the advance in grammar has been so greatly quickened that room has been found for the inclusion of the simpler kinds of subordinate sentence construction. The book should more than adequately fulfil its object—to meet the requirements of older pupils, and those who are able to give only a few hours weekly to the study of Latin.

MESSRS. WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS.

There is no end to the pampering of the modern schoolboy. Everything is done to turn his Latin and Greek lessons into reading without tears. The present **Elegiac Selections from Ovid** (1s. 6d.), compiled by Mr. R. B. Burnaby, must surely be the last word in text-book luxury, for in this book there are no fewer than nineteen illustrations, most of them full-plate, and all of them delightfully reproduced. Sarmatians, from Trajan's Column at Rome, the Lararium in a house at Pompeii, Titian's Bacchus and Ariadne, from our own National Gallery, a Circus Scene, from a mosaic found at Gerona, in Spain—these examples, to quote no further, brought together from all over the world, and fully explained in a special set of notes, help to create an atmosphere which should not be without effect upon the schoolboy's understanding of his author. One only wonders if he will properly appreciate these accessories. It would be erroneous, however, to be led away by the illustrations into minimising the educational value of the actual text and notes. We note one new departure, with which we cordially agree. The editor has introduced uniformity in the spelling of Latin words—a practice, indeed, which may be uncritical, but which is not without considerable advantages in books meant solely for use in schools. In the notes, too, on the text we are glad to see many references to our own classics, such as Shakespeare, Tennyson, Milton, and Dryden. Such cross references kill two birds with one stone, for in the case of the learned English poets a proper understanding of them will come more readily if their occasional imitation of classical idiom can immediately be paralleled by a reference back to the prototype. The rest of the book is so good that we may complain that practically nothing is said in the introduction on Ovid's style. This seems somewhat strange, because the book is confessedly written in the hope that "there may be room for a selection suited for the use of fifth forms, especially as the peculiar merits of his style are not easily appreciated by beginners."

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

The late Prof. A. S. Wilkins' little book on **Roman Education** (2s. net) is, he explains, intended in the first place for the use of students. "Students" is a wide term, and we wish Mr. Wilkins had been more explicit, for his book seems to us to be either too advanced or else too meagre. It is an exceedingly careful, sane, and scholarly digest of the original authorities, who are so conscientiously quoted as to interfere not a little in places with the current of the narrative. If Mr. Wilkins' students, as he half hints, had no great knowledge of Latin, then it seems a waste to cite so laboriously authors which such scholars cannot possibly have read, and perhaps hardly have heard of. On the other hand, any really full account of Roman Education cannot possibly be compressed within a manual of less than one hundred pages, and therefore, for the advanced Latin scholar, this treatise must remain somewhat unsatisfying. None the

less, the book is distinctly worthy of Professor Wilkins' high reputation, and is a welcome sign of that spirit in classical teaching which looks to instructing in something beyond mere grammatical and idiomatic accuracy. Professor Wilkins divides his subject into four stages—first the purely national stage, when there was at Rome no outside influence; secondly, the times from the middle of the third century B.C onwards, when Greek influences began to make their way; thirdly, the form Roman education took in the elementary and higher stages in the later days of the Republic and early Empire; and lastly, the introduction of something like a State-system of organisation and endowment of education. Of course, it is in the first part of the book that the author has most opportunity of displaying original thought, and we feel bound to say that Professor Wilkins' deductions are such as we heartily endorse. There is one point, however, to which we do not wholly subscribe. Speaking of the influx into Rome of the new Greek influences, he says: "The earlier education had been meagre and narrow, but at least it had been the same for all: the newer culture was the privilege of a class," and therefore created a fissure between the classes and masses. Professor Wilkins seems to be laying undue stress upon the fact that Rome was a Republic. Class distinctions at Rome were very real, and we doubt if the poorest class Roman ever got an education at all approximating to that of his higher-born fellow citizen, at least as soon as any education worthy of the name was given at all.

There are few of Cicero's speeches more important to us than that delivered **Pro Roscio Amerino.** Our knowledge of the terrible times in the early years of the last century of the Roman Republic is lamentably scanty, and consequently it is an absolute necessity that all schoolboys should read both the "Pro Roscio" and the "Pro Cluentio" if they are properly to understand the causes which immediately led up to Cæsarism. Mr. J. C. Nicol's edition of the former of these two speeches is a welcome addition to his previous works. As head master of Portsmouth Grammar School, Mr. Nicol has obviously written with an eye more to the schoolboy than to the riper scholar, and this fact, no doubt, accounts for the notes appearing in places somewhat redundant. We doubt, for example, if such a note as "nihil . . . debuit—he had no debts" is really worth insertion, and whether elsewhere, also, the editor would not have done better to have left his pupils to search out adequate translations for themselves. Again, we cannot see any particular force in simply transcribing the meaning of a word from Lewis and Short's dictionary unless some additional comment is also made. These, however, are minor blemishes, and Mr. Nicol has not made the too common mistake of passing by passages which really require elucidation. One of the best features of this book is the excellent introduction. We are given a clear, brief history of these days of Sulla's proscriptions, of the circumstances of the case, of the charge, of Cicero's conduct of the case, and, lastly, of the character of the speech. As a rule, introductions are apt to be somewhat dry; but Mr. Nicol has shown us how the scholar can vivify his subject by good writing.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.

There is certainly something very original in the method which Mr. F. Ritchie has applied to his **Preparatory Cæsar** (1s. 6d.), de bello Gallico, Book II. The method was fully explained in the same author's "First Step in Cæsar," where he pointed out that "among the difficulties experienced by beginners in the translation of Cæsar, the most serious is probably that caused by the great length of many of the sentences. In this book an attempt has been made to reduce this particular difficulty by breaking up Cæsar's long periods into a series of short sentences, and by presenting this preparatory matter side by side with the text." For our part we cannot profess any great love for Mr. Ritchie's scheme. In the first place, there is no such paucity of Latin authors that a boy should be turned on to construe Cæsar while he is still scared by sentences of four lines or so in length. There are numerous passages in Cæsar which would puzzle even a comparatively ripe scholar. And in the second place, since Cæsar has come to be regarded as the natural stepping-stone of the beginner, there are many simple passages also in Cæsar from which good and useful selections could be made. What we are chiefly afraid of in Mr. Ritchie's plan of procedure is that his staccato, disjointed sentences will have a bad effect upon the young beginner's composition, for we may be quite certain that it is to this simplified form of the text that he will turn his attention first, and consequently he will be less quick to pick up the feeling for rhythm and balance. However, this is solely a matter for teachers to decide for themselves, and to those who are captivated with the author's opinions we can wholeheartedly commend the book as being both suitably annotated, and as containing an extremely simple and lucid illustrated account of a Roman army, its camp, weapons, order of march, and other details. The book is made complete in itself by a good vocabulary, with the quantities marked, and some maps.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND CO.

After the great names which stand as commentators upon **Thucydides,** it would be ridiculous for anybody but a thorough Grecian to undertake further serious criticism of his works. Mr. E. C. Marchant is already known as one of the best English Thucydidean scholars, and this edition of the first book of the Greek historian (3s. 6d.) which he has now brought out should, if anything, add to his reputation. The book is heavily annotated. There are fifty pages of introductory matter alone before we reach the actual text and the notes themselves, not to mention two useful little indices, occupy more space than does the text. And yet Mr. Marchant is no mere antiquary. He has escaped the possible dangers of over-specialisation. His delicate sense of language has enabled him to discriminate meanings and usages, to record the particular associations of particular words and phrases, and, in short, to give the most intimate interpretation to the original text. Mr. Marchant himself would disclaim any ambition that his notes should be considered learned, and would be happy if only they be found "illuminating." The two things must go more or less hand in hand. At least he has achieved that result. For not the most unimportant characteristic of the entire book is the neat allusion, parallel or illustration, drawn not merely from other ancient classical authors, but from the widest field of literature, and which help the reader to understand that the phenomena of history and of language rarely stands alone. One thing we could have wished otherwise. In the introduction, the portion dealing with the Predecessors and Contemporaries of Thucydides is separated from the part in which Thucydides' mind and style are discussed. In any book of this size a thorough criticism is, of course, impossible, and we would suggest to Mr. Marchant that, if he revises this edition in the future, he should rewrite these two portions and combine them into one. They cannot properly be dissociated from each other.

MR. JOHN MURRAY.

It is difficult to see how Mr. John Thompson's **Elementary Greek Grammar** (3s.) will fill any gap that particularly wants filling. However, it seems to be the rule for most classical masters and professors nowadays to produce books, and if they are content to do so the public, at any rate, should be grateful for the wide field of selection thus offered. This volume, which may be bought in one book or else in two halves—accidence and syntax—is practically an introduction to the same author's "Greek Grammar for Schools and Colleges." It is, as its name implies, intended for beginners, and should serve its purpose quite adequately. The book is not encumbered with unusual and unnecessary forms, and the author has succeeded in stating all the essential facts both of grammar and syntax in a clear, intelligible form. In the syntax, the various examples quoted have been taken, as far as possible, from the most commonly read authors, which should impress upon beginners that the rules of grammar are based upon the Greek works to which they are gradually being introduced. This grammar resembles others in some features of which we disapprove. With all due allowances for method, we cannot see why the beginner should have to wade through all the declensions of substantives, the chapter on adjectives and adverbs and other matter before coming at last, on page 50, to the definite article. If the declension of pronouns is to come after the other subjects mentioned, surely the definite article, at least, might be taken out of its water-tight compartment and learned before the declensions of substantives. We note that the pronunciation given of the Greek letters is approximately that used in Attic Greek during the fifth and sixth centuries B.C., and this feature should recommend the book where the more correct style of pronunciation is coming to be insisted upon.

UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS, LIMITED.

A great many improvements have been introduced into the third edition of **The Tutorial History of Rome** (3s. 6d.), by Mr. A. H. Allcroft and Mr. W. F. Masom, who have had the help of Mr. J. F. Stout in bringing their book into accordance with the most recent results of modern research. Unlike most books of its kind, which stop short with the murder of Julius Cæsar, this volume is continued down to the death of Augustus, and therefore gives us a picture of those unsettled years between the death of Cæsar and the final triumph of Augustus, which really belong more intimately to the overthrown Republic than to the newly established Empire. The contents of this history are too well known now to call for any lengthy exposition here, and it should be enough to record again our satisfaction with a book which, while short, gives all the important facts, and at the same time is more concerned with explaining the undercurrents which led up to the various main landmarks in Roman history than with discussing the precise number of cohorts that fought at the battle of Cannæ. Such important points as the organisation and condition of the provinces, the history of the Decemvirate, the real meaning of the Valerio-Horatian Laws, and so on, have been made

into a special feature, and are discussed at considerable length. There is one omission to which we would call attention. In the authors' account of the origin of the Tribunate, on pp. 85-87, nothing is said of the important fact that the Tribune's power was confined to the city, and that his protest must be made in person—whence it followed that he must always sleep in his own house at Rome, and was compelled to keep his door open day and night. No mention, either, is made of the connection of the ædiles with the tribunes. In other constitutional particulars this volume is, for its size, singularly detailed, is well supplied with numerous useful maps, and altogether, both in subject-matter and treatment, is the best Roman history of its class that we have read.

Two further additions to the editions of the Latin and Greek classics are **Cicero's Pro Lege Manilia** (2s. 6d.) and **Plato's Crito** (2s. 6d.). When we say that they both come up to the high standard for which this series is already well known, we have said enough. It is in no small measure due to the University Tutorial Press that text-books are no longer the cumbersome things that they once were. The admirable feature of the notes supplied is that they discard that irritating practice of everlastingly drawing parallels which are often quite useless, and, while avoiding controversial discussions of difficulties, lay proper stress upon the important points of grammar and subject-matter. Again, the practice of subjoining an adequate historical and geographical index, thus abolishing the need for a classical dictionary, is one which should commend itself to the parent. As usual, both these books are prefaced by a pertinent account of the author and his works, the circumstances under which he wrote, and his style and dialect where such points call for special notice. In short, the books succeed, and will continue to succeed, because they combine sound and solid scholarship with practical and workmanlike methods. Everything is clear and orderly. The actual text is well printed; the system of arrangement is lucid; and care has been taken not to introduce superfluities, which perplex rather than elucidate. The merits of this series should win it a place far beyond the modest limits of that tutorial system which its compilers originally undertook to fill.

Mathematics, Science, etc.

MR. EDWARD ARNOLD.

MECHANICS. A School Course. Second Impression. By W. D. Eggar, M.A. 3s. 6d. 1905.

Mr. Eggar, who was one of the pioneers of the new movement in the teaching of geometry, has now broken ground with an excellently-written little work on mechanics, in which the subject is treated on an experimental basis, and not, as has largely been the practice hitherto, as a branch of abstract mathematics. The meaning of such terms as "velocity," "acceleration," "moments," "work," and "momentum" are rendered clear by actual measurements, made by the student himself, in connection with a series of simple but effective experiments. Squared paper methods are freely employed, and in the treatment of variable velocity and acceleration, the differential calculus—although this will startle old-fashioned people—quite properly puts in a modest appearance. The examples, and this is saying much for a text-book on mechanics, are eminently sensible and relevant. Kinetics is taken before statics, but the book is equally serviceable to those who prefer to begin with the latter. The chapter on Galileo's classical experiments on falling bodies is not the least interesting and stimulating part of a valuable work.

GEOMETRICAL CONICS. By G. W. Caunt, M.A., and C. M. Jessop, M.A. 2s. 6d. 1905.

It will be generally conceded that before proceeding to analytical methods, the student should gain some knowledge of the leading properties of conics by means of pure geometry. The mistake is often made, however, of spending too much time on this necessary introduction. No fault can be found with Messrs. Caunt and Jessop in this respect. Their book extends to only 80 pages, and yet contains all that is really required. Some exception may be taken to their treating conics at the very beginning as sections of the cone instead of as plane loci, but we are inclined to think that their plan is the right one. Due prominence is given to the principle of continuity, and there are good chapters on the polar properties of the circle and on projections. The book is an excellent one.

THE LAWS OF HEALTH. By D. Nabarro, M.D. Cloth, 1s. 6d.

This little book aims only at general hints how to keep the mind and body in a healthy state. It is intended for senior pupils in schools and for the general reader. The usual subjects are treated: digestion, food and drink, fresh air, cleanliness, dress and exercise. The book seems very suitable for home use, but how it can be got into a school course we do not quite see. As long as inspectors and examinations have to be met, we fear teachers will need more systematic treatment of the subject.

MESSRS. GEORGE BELL AND SONS.

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA. By W. M. Baker, M.A., and A. A. Bourne, M.A. Second Edition Revised. Complete, with or without Answers, 4s. 6d. Or in Two Parts: Part I., with Answers, 3s.; without, 2s. 6d. Part II., with or without Answers, 2s. 6d. 1905.

It is a tribute to the merits of Messrs. Baker and Bourne's work that it has been adopted in many important schools, and that a second edition has already been required. As a school-book it has many excellences. In particular, great skill and judgment have been shown in the devising or selection of the numerous examples, and in their arrangement. It is a pity, however, that an otherwise good book should still, in its second edition, show occasional inaccuracy or misleading vagueness of expression of its expository parts. This looseness or inadequacy of statement infects the discussion of vital matters like practical indices. The idea of a graph is blurred by assertions such as that made on page 336, in the course of a solution of a cistern problem, that a certain straight line is "the graph of the first tap." Graphical methods seem to us to be overdone. In this regard, Chapter XL., in which easy problems are unnaturally solved by squared paper constructions, is, in our opinion, for the most part an example of misdirected ingenuity.

A FIRST ALGEBRA. By W. M. Baker, M.A., and A. A. Bourne, M.A. With Answers. 2s. 1905.

This is an adaptation of the first part of the author's larger book on algebra. While specially intended for beginners, it extends so far as to include a not very satisfactory treatment of fractional indices. The examples are really good and suggestive. Due attention has been paid to the connection of algebra with arithmetic. There are good chapters on substitution in formulæ, symbolical expression and problems. A large amount of work is done with graphs, some of it excellent, some of it of doubtful value.

NEW SCHOOL ARITHMETIC. By Charles Pendlebury, M.A., F.R.A.S., assisted by F. E. Robinson, M.A. Complete, with or without Answers, 4s. 6d.; or in Two Parts, 2s. 6d. each. Answers separately, 6d. net. 1905.

The sixteenth edition of Mr. Pendlebury's widely-used treatise on Arithmetic has been taken as a basis of the new text-book. The characteristic features which secured popularity for the older book are retained, but effect is now given to the recommendations of the Committee on the Teaching of Elementary Mathematics, appointed by the Mathematical Association in 1902. The substantial merits of the book will not appeal in vain, especially to those who have been accustomed to use the older editions. Judged as a school-book, which from its title it professes to be, although the preface hints also at its somewhat incompatible use as a manual of self-tuition, the book seems to us, we must confess, too large. It would have been better, in our opinion, if the elaborate theoretical explanations and discussions had been either dropped or relegated to a companion volume for teachers.

EXAMPLES IN ARITHMETIC, with some Notes on Method. By C. O. Tuckey, M.A. 1905.

This is a good type of book, by an author already favourably known through his similar work on algebra. It consists of suitably graded exercises, covering the whole field of arithmetic as commonly taught in secondary schools, what is called "backwork" being left, rightly as we think, to be supplied by the teacher. It follows modern tendencies in avoiding in the body of the book merely artificial conundrums, these being relegated to a separate section, significantly labelled "examination examples," in providing problems requiring the use of mathematical instruments, squared paper, logarithms and algebraical symbols, and in seeking to correlate arithmetic with the other branches of mathematics and with physics. A compound interest table and tables of four-figure logarithms and of trigonometrical ratios conclude a very serviceable volume.

A NEW TRIGONOMETRY FOR SCHOOLS. By W. G. Borchardt, M.A., B.Sc., and the Rev. A. D. Perrott, M.A. 4s. 6d. 1905.

Although, as far as we have been able to discover, no mention of the fact is made in the book itself, this is a revised and materially improved edition of a book which made its appearance in 1904. In particular, Chapter VI. of Part I., dealing with the applications of algebraic signs, has been partly rewritten, the previous unsound treatment of this subject having given way to an unexceptionable mode of exposition, in which difference of direction is made the basis of difference of sign. In its original form the solid merits of the book had gained for it a secure place in a great number of schools; in its amended form it ought to win an even wider acceptance. While not revolutionary, it makes sufficient concessions to modern theories of mathematical teaching. The practical parts of the subject are made specially prominent. Graphical methods and the use of squared paper receive due attention. Four-figure logarithms, the solution of triangles, and problems of the heights and distances type

precede, as they should in a school course, the addition formulæ and difficult identities. It would be an improvement if in subsequent editions the proofs given of the addition theorem, with their numerous cases, were replaced, or at least supplemented, by a general proof depending on projection. A proof such as that given by Mr. Picken in Vol. XXIII. of "The Proceedings of the Edinburgh Mathematical Society," which deserves to be more widely known, can be presented in a way perfectly intelligible to schoolboys. Part II. deals in admirable fashion with the higher parts of the subject, such as trigonometrical limits, the exponential theorem and De Moivre's theorem. One appendix is devoted to seven-figure logarithms, while another gives a clear description of the slide rule and its uses. The work, of which the two parts may be obtained separately, is strongly recommended as a full, lucid, and well-arranged text-book on modern lines.

MESSRS. A. AND C. BLACK.

THE "COUNCIL" ARITHMETIC FOR SCHOOLS. By T. B. Ellery, F.R.G.S. Part I.: Paper covers, 2d.; cloth, 3d. Parts II.-V.: Paper covers, 3d.; cloth, 4d. Parts VI.-VIII.: Paper covers, 4d.; cloth, 6d.

This course is adapted to the requirements of Scheme B of the Education Code, and the ability and thoroughness of the performance are sufficiently guaranteed by the author's name. Full effect is given to all that is valuable in modern theories of the teaching of arithmetic. Mental arithmetic prepares the way for written work. The questions are of the right kind, and arranged in the right order. Concreteness and practical interest are secured in every legitimate way, not the least effective being the delightful illustrations which occur on nearly every other page, especially in the earlier parts. The series deserves, and will certainly obtain, a wider vogue.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

THE ELEMENTS OF SOLID GEOMETRY. By Charles Davison, Sc.D. 2s. 6d. net. 1905.

Mr. Davison has produced an excellent little treatise on a subject which, apart from the study of the first twenty-one propositions of Euclid's eleventh book, has been hitherto unduly neglected in the secondary schools of this country. A change is now taking place in this respect, and Mr. Davison's book will probably win recognition, as it fully deserves to do, as a useful complement to a text-book on plane geometry. There are four chapters dealing, in an eminently clear and logical manner, with lines and planes in space, polyhedra, the cylinder and cone, and the sphere, besides a sufficient number of good and instructive exercises, many of them numerical. The general attractiveness of the book is enhanced by the excellent figures and type.

THE WINCHESTER ARITHMETIC. By C. Godfrey, M.A., and G. M. Bell, B.A. 3s. 1905.

All the arithmetic that needs to be, or ought to be, overtaken in a secondary school, is here admirably presented in a slim volume of less than 200 pages. The authors evidently consider, and with reason, that to teach is the function, not of a book, but of the teacher, and while they supply, according to a well-thought-out method, all that requires to be done by the pupil, they do not cumber their pages with superfluous discussion. In the use of preparatory oral exercises, in the bridging of the gap between arithmetic and algebra, in the thorough treatment of negative numbers, in the stress laid on logarithmic computation and approximations, in the due, but not more than due, employment of graphical methods, and in many other respects, the book exhibits the newer tendencies, controlled by praiseworthy soundness and sanity of judgment. It is one of the best and most workable of the recent arithmetics. The preface states that an interleaved teachers' copy is also published, containing answers and model worked-out exercises.

CLARENDON PRESS.

ELEMENTARY MODERN GEOMETRY. Part I. By H. G. Willis, M.A. 1905.

The 236 pages of this work do not carry the learner beyond the thirty-fourth proposition of Euclid's first book. Apparently excessive, this ample allowance may not be without justification. The first chapter, of 70 pages, contains a well-considered introductory and experimental course on the usual lines. The unique character of the book appears in the subsequent chapters. Unlike too many persons who have recently essayed to write on elementary geometry, Mr. Willis is evidently not ignorant of the modern science of non-Euclidean space, and accordingly he is fully conscious of the difficulties lying at the foundations of geometry. It may, indeed, be thought that, in a work intended for beginners, he faces these difficulties too boldly. A long section is devoted to first principles, and in it there are lengthy and difficult discussions on the axioms of continuity, displacement and rotation, the last-named being used by Mr. Willis in place of Euclid's parallel postulate. Logically, of course, principles come first, but in historical development and in education, the fundamentals of a science only begin to be understood after some progress has been made in the science itself. It is enough if in the early stages of geometry we guide the tyro past serious pitfalls and give him no false directions. The same tendency, as many will think it, towards premature instruction, leads Mr. Willis to make use of the ideas of limits, infinity (e.g., in connection with parallels), duality, envelope, etc. The book represents a bold experiment, which we should be greatly interested in seeing tried.

MESSRS. W. B. CLIVE AND SONS.

GEOMETRY, THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL. Part I. By W. P. Workman, M.A., B.Sc., and A. G. Cracknell, M.A., B.Sc., F.C.P. 3s. 6d. 1906.

It is a pleasure to welcome a book which combines the advantages of newer methods with logical rigour and a clear grasp of first principles. Not even Lewis Carroll, whose satire, "Euclid and his Modern Rivals," would make salutary reading for some of the recent makers of geometrical text-books, could pick many holes in the work before us. Of course, hypothetical constructions—which Lewis Carroll would have condemned—are admitted, and with good reason. But they are infrequently used, and never without a warning sign-post. The treatment of parallels—the crucial point in an elementary book—is unimpeachable. The interest of the book and its value for a clever boy are increased by the inclusion, though not in the regular sequence of propositions, of such things as Legendre's attempt to prove the angle-sum theorem without using Euclid's parallel postulate. For sound pedagogic reasons, areas are treated in connection with commensurables, the discussion of incommensurables, which cannot be avoided at some point in a full course of geometry, being apparently left for Part II. The practical parts of the book seem to be as good as the theoretical, and there is an abundance of useful exercises. Part I. roughly covers the ground of Euclid, Books I.-IV.

FIRST STAGE PHYSIOGRAPHY. Edited by R. Wallace Stewart, D.Sc. The Organised Science Series. 2s.

Physiography seems to be a compromise between the educational value of any one science, thoroughly taught, and the necessity of giving pupils a nodding acquaintance, at least, with several sciences. Thus it is well in accord with the portentous curricula of modern schools. More systematic and theoretical than "nature study," it is in no part so thorough as, for example, elementary chemistry. The "Physiography" before us has been written by specialists to meet the requirements of the Board of Education. Part I. deals with mechanics, Part II. with heat and light, and Part III. with chemistry, excluding the atomic theory. Experiments, summaries of chapters, questions and answers, and two examination papers are supplied. We doubt the wisdom of going far in chemistry without grappling with the molecular theory and formulæ, which, though difficult to a beginner and discredited as a final solution, still correlate the experimental facts. But the University Tutorial Series do not pretend to be educational in the strict sense of the word. They are mainly—as students and coaches know—an unrivalled aid to passing examinations. To say that "First Stage Physiography" is not unworthy of the series in which it appears is to praise it highly.

GEOMETRY, THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL. By W. P. Workman, M.A., B.Sc., and A. G. Cracknell, M.A., B.Sc., F.C.P. 3s. 6d.

The modern method of teaching geometry is still on its trial, and the verdict cannot be given for many years yet. But the book before us puts the modern method in its best form. Briefly stated, its method of arrangement consists in giving a series of lessons in the drawing of a few elementary figures, e.g., parallels, triangles, circles, etc., of assigned dimensions. The properties of such figures are studies and established by concise proof; e.g., "Any two sides of a triangle are together greater than the third side. Any angle in a semicircle is a right angle," etc. The reader is introduced to the conception of a locus, symmetry and an area. Congruent figures, concurrent lines, colinear lines. Not the least valuable part of the book is the admirable collection of drawing problems, calculation exercises, and "riders," or exercises in theorems. These are suitably dispersed throughout the book, so as to follow the instruction connected with or suggesting their solution. The volume covers the ground required for the Cambridge or Oxford Local Prelim., and for the Junior Oxford or Cambridge Pass. A system of references has been devised, and a convenient summary is given. An index (which for some occult reason is not placed where one would expect to find it) is a useful feature. The authors have spared no pains in the making of an excellent class-book.

THE SCHOOL MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY. By R. H. Jude. 3s. 6d.

This volume is an extension of the author's "First Stage of Magnetism and Electricity." It is divided into Part I.:

Frictional Electricity and Electrostatics; Part. II.: Magnetism; Part III.: Electrodynamics (Voltaic Electricity). By the use of large and small type, the relative importance of the various paragraphs is at once indicated. The author quite wisely introduces to his readers the notion of the all-important conception of Potential in his second chapter, instead of deferring it, as is so often done, to the confusion of the student. In the domain of physics there are few subjects which are so difficult for the beginner as that of electricity, and, therefore, when a further edition of this valuable book is called for, we should gladly welcome the incorporation of a number of experiments which might be conducted by home-made apparatus of the simplest character possible. This book will find its way into the hands of many readers who have no opportunity of visiting a physical laboratory, and will probably not have the knowledge or initiative to contrive some homely apparatus wherewith to repeat the experiments suggested in this book. At the end of each chapter may be found a concise summary, and also a goodly number of problems and numerical examples. The book has been well indexed, though we regret that the numbers refer to the sections instead of the pages. Dr. Jude's name alone is quite sufficient guarantee that the book is entirely reliable and up-to-date.

TUTORIAL CHEMISTRY. Part I. Non-Metals. 3s. 6d. Part II.: Metals and Physical Chemistry. 4s. 6d. By G. H. Bailey, D.Sc., Ph.D. Second Editions, Re-written and Enlarged.

Part I., in addition to dealing with the non-metals, also contains chapters on physical changes, volume and mass of gases, atomic weights, valency, nomenclature, types of chemical changes, electrolysis, etc., and includes also an excellent section dealing with simple chemical calculations. The various chapters incorporate a fair number of typical experiments suitable for demonstration and class-room work. A number of questions and numerical problems are added at the end of each chapter, and some useful tables are given in appendix form. Part II. deals with the metals in their usual groups, and follows the same general plan of Part I. The physical chapters deal with atomic and molecular weights, classification of elements (periodic system) properties of gases, states of aggregation, liquids, solutions, dissociation crystalography, spectrum analyses, and chemical dynamics. The work is well up to date, and contains some notice of the helium group, polonium, and the α, β, and γ rays of radium. We have only two suggestions to offer when a third edition is called for, viz., the expansion of the section on nomenclature and incorporation of a section of photo-chemical action. Dr. Bailey is to be heartily congratulated on the production of two almost ideal students' books, inasmuch as they contain the maximum information of the most important kind in clear and concise language. One of the ever-present problems before every writer of students' manuals is knowing what to omit as being of secondary importance. But Dr. Bailey (Lecturer in Chemistry at the Victoria University of Manchester) has evidently realised this, and hence his two volumes contain just the things the student must know for a sound grounding before he passes on to the details of secondary importance. The many companion volumes in this Tutorial Series are all of established reputation, and Dr. Bailey's volumes on chemistry will certainly help to extend that reputation.

FIRST STAGE HYGIENE. By Robert A. Lyster, M.B., etc. Fourth Edition. 2s.

This is a well-known treatise, brought down to date by a fresh appendix and a series of examination papers. Like the other books in the "Organised Science Series," it is essentially a practical work, and it ever keeps in view the examination paper at the close of the session. But it contains a wealth of accurate scientific information, which for the small cost is a marvel in book-making. Its chapters on accidents, water supply, drainage, etc., should be known to every householder. We are inclined to think it contains too much for a first stage, but, of course, the judicious teacher can select.

THE PRIMARY ARITHMETIC. Edited by William Briggs, LL.D., etc. Parts I. and II., 6d. each; Part III., 9d. 1905.

"The Primary Arithmetic" consists in the main of carefully graduated examples on all the usual subjects as far as interest and mensuration, treated in a simple manner. The first exercises in each new "rule" are oral, and involve only small numbers. By their means the pupil may be led, under the guidance of the teacher, to construct the "rule" for himself. The questions are, to a large extent, of an interesting and practical character, and do not lend themselves to dull mechanical operations, or require uselessly intricate calculations. The course is admirably adapted for use in primary schools.

CLIVE'S ARITHMETICS FOR SCHEME B. Edited by William Briggs, LL.D. Standards I.-III., 2d. each; Standards IV.-VII., 3d. each. 1905.

This is simply "The Primary Arithmetic" already noticed, issued in smaller parts for the use of the different standards. The answers are not given, but may be obtained separately.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.

A COURSE IN PRACTICAL MATHEMATICS. By F. M. Saxelby, M.Sc., B.A. 6s. 6d. 1905.

For technical students it would be difficult to find a better course than this. The author's mastery of the subjects discussed, his good sense and practical instinct are everywhere apparent. The range of topics is wide, including the differential and integral calculus, solid geometry and vector analysis; but at every point Mr. Saxelby shows the same fertility of practical application, and the same anxious care to build on a foundation of clearly realised experience. While for his own special purpose advocating and using an intuitional rather than a deductive method, Mr. Saxelby, we are glad to observe, is quite well aware that mathematics is an exact science, although its conventions are chosen with reference to experience, and consequently he does not share the contempt which some practical mathematicians profess for rigorous analysis. The book is a large one, and it is impossible in the space at our disposal to do justice to its merits in detail. We recommend it, however, with the utmost confidence.

A CLASS-BOOK OF ARITHMETIC. By Charles Davison, Sc.D. 3s.; or without Answers, 2s. 6d. 1905.

This book is designed for secondary schools. As is proper in a class-book, it confines itself chiefly to exercises, the bookwork being limited for the most part to proofs of the theorems employed in the working out of the type-examples. Graphs are not discussed, and with this no fault can be found, as the subject is eminently one for *vivâ voce* treatment by the teacher. The examples requiring the use of graphs are relegated to an appendix, and are few in number. The use of graphs has been absurdly overdone in many recent books, but Mr. Davison has probably erred on the other side. The book is lightened by the omission of much technical matter belonging to the region of commercial arithmetic. "True" discount is retained, but not "commercial" discount. Some of the examples, especially in the earlier part of the book, seem to lead to unduly long calculations. Good features are the prominence given to mental arithmetic, the use of contracted methods, and the fact that the problems are not classified according to type.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND CO.

MACHINE CONSTRUCTION AND DRAWING. By Frank Castle, M.I.M.E. 1905.

Mr. Castle is an expert in the subject on which he writes, and has produced a book which will add to his already high reputation as an author of works on practical mathematics. The machine and engine details with which he deals are remarkable both for number and variety. The explanations and directions are clear, definite and practical. The printing and the illustrations, of special importance in a work of this kind, are excellent.

EASY MATHEMATICS, CHIEFLY ARITHMETIC. Being a Collection of Hints to Teachers, Parents, Self-taught Students, and Adults; and containing a Summary or Indication of Most Things in Elementary Mathematics Useful to be Known. By Sir Oliver Lodge, F.R.S., etc. 1905.

The title, with its curious cross-classification and quaint suggestion of the eighteenth century, at once excites an interest which is certainly not allowed to flag in the book itself. The lack of freshness, interest and liveliness in mathematical teaching, the "ghastly but prevalent error" that "mathematics is a study which knows nothing of observation, nothing of induction, nothing of experiment," and the inevitable consequences of intellectual injury to the child, and of "complete and shameless" ignorance of mathematics on the part of the average educated adult, are the points from which Sir Oliver Lodge starts. He proceeds to show, in a series of lessons, intended rather as hints to teachers than as pabulum for youth, and ranging from Kindergarten arithmetic to the differential calculus, how mathematics may be made a source of intellectual inspiration for the multitude. It is always pleasant to listen to Sir Oliver Lodge discoursing in his breezy, unconventional style, on a congenial theme, and it must be admitted that on the present occasion his discourse is highly edifying and suggestive. It may be objected, however, apart from the scant justice done to the conception of mathematics as an exact rather than an empirical science, that Sir Oliver Lodge is largely preaching to the already converted, and that he seems almost to be unaware of the veritable revolution which —with what results remains to be seen—has recently taken place in mathematical teaching.

A MANUAL OF CARPENTRY AND JOINERY. By J. W. Riley, Lecturer in the Municipal Technical School, Rochdale. 6s. net.

The foremost aim of this excellent manual is to prepare the students at technical schools and colleges for the

examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute. It is certain, however, that the author's ulterior aim will also be reached, and that the book will prove of the greatest service to workers at the bench who have any ambition thoroughly to master their trade. And we might add that the amateur carpenter will find this book to be a perfect cyclopædia of information. Mr. Riley has mapped out his subject with the greatest skill, and has introduced many new and valuable features into its elucidation. The mathematics of the subject is given in a clear and practical way, such as to presuppose only a minimum acquaintance with geometry, mensuration and mechanics. One long and specially valuable chapter is devoted to the description of tools and wood-working machinery. The book is profusely illustrated with plans and diagrams and photographs, amounting in all to nearly a thousand cuts. At the end of each chapter there is a useful recapitulation, and a well-assorted list of questions, chosen from old examination papers. The book is marked throughout by its unusual combination of condensed and varied information and lucidity of exposition.

ELEMENTS OF QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS. By G. H. Bailey, D.Sc., Ph.D.

This book of 240 pages makes a welcome departure from the usual lines of laboratory handbooks, and deals with general principles as exemplified by typical cases rather than tabulated experiments and tests. The several introductory chapters on preparing and weighing the substance to be examined, fusion, solution, filtration, treatment of precipitates, and standard solutions, are all of quite exceptional value, and contain just the information which the usual routine bench books pass over in silence. Dr. Bailey's experience as a teacher has doubtless taught him that, while a pupil *may know* what reactions *should* happen under certain conditions, yet for want of knowledge how to dissolve a substance, collect and dry a precipitate, prepare an indicator or standard solution for himself, the pupil is not able to make the test without assistance. Quite wisely the author has not limited his analyses to the things usually found on the laboratory shelf, but has included substances of an everyday commercial character, as, for example, bleaching powder, bran, bronze, clay, coke, fats, glass, oils, salt, cake, solder, sewage, vat liquor, wax, etc. The usual elements and many common mineral ores are of course included. Among appendix matters special mention should be made of a series of valuable notes on the testing of the reagents themselves. The division of the index into four sections does not entirely commend itself to our approval.

BRITISH FLOWERING PLANTS. By the Right Hon. Lord Avebury. 15s. net.

This is not a Flora in the sense of Hooker or Babington to enable the student to determine any British plant. It is rather a supplement, giving many striking facts in the economy and life-history of plants. As the author says: "To many, systematic botany is the most interesting department; to others, it is the entrance and outer court of the temple; and when we realise that for every shade of colour, for the endless difference in size, form, and structure, there are, if we only knew them, good and sufficient reasons. Nature seems endowed with new and vivid life, with enhanced claims on our love, wonder, and devotion." As we might expect from the author's rare powers of observation and knowledge in many collateral fields of study, this volume is a repertory of curious information, full of interest to the student of botany. It can also be read with pleasure and profit by any lover of Nature to whom the manuals are sealed books. The book abounds in many statements of fact, which even experienced botanists will be surprised to find they were not aware of. No other work we know states that chrysosplenium alternifolium has a triangular stem, while oppositifolium has a quadrangular one. Again, we are told: "In very dry localities we find an unusual proportion of annual species." "The lines and bands by which so many flowers are ornamented have reference to the position of the honey, and these honey guides are absent in night flowers." "Each working bee keeps during each journey to a single species of plant." It is in this vein that Lord Avebury goes through all the Natural Orders, and gives in this handsome volume a mass of information not found in any other single book in the region of botany. The get-up and illustration are superb, and a complete glossary and index are provided.

MESSRS. HORACE MARSHALL AND SON.

BOTANY RAMBLES. By Ella Thomson. In Three Parts. 1s. each.

These very direct and simple talks to children are first-class aids to the use of eyes. Part I. treats of spring and the opening of buds, Part II. deals with summer and the structure of flowers, while Part III. covers autumn and fruits. The whole forms a very complete series of bright, instructive lessons, and for country schools nothing better could be had for purposes of revision and to drive home the practical lesson given by the teacher in the open air. They will do more harm than good if merely used as class-readers apart from practical work. The drawings and particularly the photographs are very fine. It was sensible for school purposes to have three parts instead of one fat book, and the limp cloth covers are in keeping.

MR. JOHN MURRAY.

NOTES ON VOLUMETRIC ANALYSIS. Enlarged Edition. By J. B. Russell, B.Sc., and A. M. Bell, B.Sc. 2s. 1905.

This new edition of a book which has already been found excellently adapted for use in school laboratories, contains additional matter on the standardisation of acids by means of sodium, chalk, borax, etc., and on the use of potassium bichromate, silver nitrate, iodine, and thiosulphate. The directions given in the earlier part of the book are full and precise; later on, with the laudable object of stimulating initiative in the pupil, greater brevity is used. The book is good.

PRACTICAL ARITHMETIC. By A. Consterdine, M.A., and S. O. Andrew, M.A. With Answers, 2s. 6d.; without, 2s.; in Two Parts, 1s. each. 1905.

This book, which is intended by its authors for the use of scholars between the ages of nine and twelve, represents a vigorous departure from orthodox lines. The method adopted is consistently heuristic, and throughout the course the motto from Rousseau's "Emile" prefixed to the book, "Mesurez, comptez, pesez, comparez," is kept in view and applied. The materials used in the arithmetical calculations have to be obtained for the most part by measurements made by the scholars themselves, not merely of drawings, but of geometrical models and of an immense variety of common objects. Decimal fractions are treated before vulgar fractions, and, as should be the case, in connection with the linear metric scale. Algebraical symbols and formulæ are led up to by numerical exercises. Though entitled an arithmetic, the book is much more than that; it embodies an eminently sane and thorough-going attempt to co-ordinate and fuse together the main branches of elementary mathematics—arithmetic, drawing, practical mensuration, geometry, and algebra. On nearly every page there is evidence of sound judgment, knowledge of children, and pedagogic skill. One among many pleasing features is the complete absence of the useless lumber with which tradition and an unintelligent examination system have loaded most English text-books on arithmetic in the past. A course such as this, if consistently and intelligently worked through, could not fail to excite the interest of the pupil and materially assist in the cultivation of self-dependence and initiative. One important objection, however, may be made to the book as a class-book intended for young pupils. It seems to usurp the place of the teacher, making him a mere attendant, whose function it is to hand round models to his scholars, and to check results. The book is largely made up of such directions as these: "Your teacher will give you a block of wood called an oblong prism, examine it carefully, and write down in your note-book," etc. "Examine the pyramid given to you by your teacher, you will have no difficulty in recognising the base, and you will notice," etc., which, with slight verbal changes, are just the things which a teacher would say to his class, but which the pupils need not, and perhaps should not, have before him in print. A heuristic course of teaching must of course be largely oral, and the books required for it would seem to be two, one a *vade mecum* for the teacher, and the other, to be put into the hands of the pupils, restricted to results conveniently arranged for reference, and to examples to be worked out. With this reservation the book can be heartily recommended.

THE RUDIMENTS OF PRACTICAL MATHEMATICS. By A. Consterdine, M.A., and A. Barnes, M.A. 2s. 6d. 1905.

This book, designed for pupils over twelve, especially those in evening schools who intend to follow industrial careers, may be regarded as a continuation of the one just noticed, although at the beginning it traverses some of the old ground. In it we have the same skilful amalgam of various departments of elementary mathematics, in this case with the addition of such subjects as trigonometry, logarithms, and mechanics, treated as far as possible experimentally and inductively. A particular subject is considered from as many different points of view as possible—proportion, for example, being first dealt with arithmetically by the unitary method, then algebraically, and then by means of graphical representation. The book exhibits the same characteristics of method and the same general excellence of treatment as have already been noted in Messrs. Consterdine and Andrew's work on Arithmetic. Although, like the latter, it combines the somewhat incongruous features of a teacher's guide and a class-book for scholars, it is an admirable piece of work, and, if only as a systematic series of model lessons, deserves the careful attention of teachers.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN.

The Hon. M. Cordelia Leigh has written a Nature book for young people, entitled **Our School Out of Doors** (2s.), in which a number of facts and fancies are grouped together under such headings as Uniforms for Animals, Carrier Insects, Flames of Fire, Watery Wonders, etc. The language is simple and well suited to children, and there are illustrations of varying degrees of merit. The following extracts will give an idea of the value of the actual information dispensed:

"Pomatum is said to have got its name from being first made of the pulp of apples beaten up with lard and rose water: 'pomus' is Latin for apple."

"Salmon feed altogether on 'crustaceans,' that is to say, crabs, lobsters, and their relations; and it is thought that their red colour (which comes out in these creatures when boiled) gives the fish its salmon colour."

"The word oak is thought to come from the Anglo-Saxon 'aack' or 'ak,' and 'acorn' from 'ac-cern,' oak-corn, as the Saxons would have probably eaten acorns when other food was scarce."

French and German.

MR. EDWARD ARNOLD.

ARNOLD'S FRENCH TEXTS. General Editor, Maurice A. Gerothwohl. Limp cloth, 6d. each.

(1) Madame de Ségur, "Le Forçat ou à tout Péché Miséricorde"; (2) P. J. Stahl, "Aventures de Tom Pouce"; (3) Comte E. de la Bédollière, "Histoire de la Mère Michel et de son Chat"; (4) George Sand, "Histoire du Véritable Gribouille"; (5) Alfred de Vigny, "Laurette ou Le Cachet rouge"; (6) H. Moreau, "La Souris Blanche et Les Petits Souliers"; (7) Octave Feuillet, "La Vie de Polichinelle"; (8) Florian, "Le Bon Père"; (9) Le Sage, "Crispin Rival de son Maître"; (10) Champfleury, "Monsieur Tringle"; (11) Chev. d'Hamilton, "Aventures du Chevalier de Grammont"; (12) Alexandre Dumas père, "Histoire d'un Pointer écossais"; (13) Michelet, "Deux Héroines de la Révolution"; (14) Joseph Méry, "Trafalgar"; (15) Edmond and Jules de Goncourt, "Marie-Antoinette"; (16) H. de Balzac, "Mercadet." This energetic, and, in the main, admirable attempt to provide pupils with cheap French texts deserves every encouragement. The plan of each book in the series is quite simple. The plain text is preceded by a notice of the author, and followed by a minimum of notes and a full vocabulary, the whole being clearly printed and bound in limp green cloth. We append a few criticisms on the method and its execution. There are many instances in which phrases that are fully explained in the vocabulary are also commented upon in the notes, usually with slightly different wording. This may be intentional, but, even so, its *raison d'être* is not obvious. Care has not always been taken to ensure accuracy or elegance of expression in the notes; we have observed the following:—"Beware *on behalf of* your skin"; "that was all in your *imagination and brains*"; "Bourdonopolis, *a Greek name*" (No. 4); "*Won't the devil* make this bore shut up!" (No. 7); "for us to *back on* our word," "as a *crowning* to your distress," "a *brisk* spark" (*un vert galant*), "you are very tender *in* points of propriety" (No. 9); "Are you in a *laughing fit?*" (No. 11); "How early you *come*" (No. 15); "Let him who pays for my cab *beware* that my assets will not *refund him the money*" (No. 16). Another serious blemish is the dragging into the notes of irrelevant phrases containing the annotated words, while the opportunities afforded for interesting remarks, on *à la lanterne*, *vade retro*, *fête* (patron saint's day), and the like have not been taken advantage of. When these defects are remedied, the volumes should take a front place among series of the kind.

MÉMOIRES D'UN ÂNE. By Comtesse de Ségur. Edited by Lucy E. Farrer, B.A. 1s.

This is the third of the series known as Arnold's French Reading Books. Their special feature, as distinguishing them from the other texts published by this firm, is that, in addition to the vocabulary (printed in small but quite clear type), they have sets of exercises, each consisting of (1) questions in French, based on the language of the text, (2) a section on grammar and word formation, and (3) sentences to be turned into French. In the present volume this appended matter has been carefully compiled, and should prove serviceable in driving home the grammatical facts to be learnt from a thorough study of the text. On page 49 *le mot féminin pour* strikes us as an odd substitute for the usual *le féminin de*.

GRADUATED FRENCH UNSEENS. In Four Parts. Compiled and Edited by Victor Oger. 8d. each.

These useful little volumes aim at widening the view of students of French by giving them a selection of pieces representative, both as to subject-matter and style, of standard French prose writers of the three last centuries. The title bears the word "graduated," but Professor Oger obviously appreciates the comparative unmeaningness of the term, for he says: "I believe the clearness of the foreign text, both in substance and in form, and its human interest, offer the most useful graduation." Each piece is as complete in itself as such extracts can ever be; the choice is good, the type clear, and the size of each part (64 pages) convenient for terminal use.

SOUND AND SENTENCE PRACTICE FOR BEGINNERS IN FRENCH. Part I. By Margaret H. Jemmett. Part II. By H. Macdonald. Parts III. and IV. By C. Winifred Matthews.

We do not imagine that these books will be very enthusiastically taken up outside the limits of the Wimbledon High School, where they no doubt fall into their proper place in the curriculum, and for which, we suppose, they were primarily intended by the mistresses of the school, who have compiled them. The plan on which the lessons have been drawn up is not generally obvious; nor are the entries in the Tables of Contents entirely free from obscurity—we may instance "French prose with gaps." We must confess that many of the sentences for translation simply leave us wondering: "We have broken the roof and the pavement," "He will have eaten two sheep, one pig, four ducks, and nine pigeons," "I should have a cock," "Thou wouldst have a duck," "How many potatoes have you in your garden?" "What was that man knocking?"

GEORGE BELL AND SONS.

BELL'S FRENCH COURSE. Parts I. and II. By R. P. Atherton, M.A.

The task that Mr. Atherton has set himself in making these simple but well-planned volumes, clearly printed and tastefully bound, is best indicated by the following extracts from the preface to Part I: "The broad principle on which the present course is based is that of Moderate Reform. . . . The first part of this course is the result of a series of attempts to select what is best in both the newer and the older methods for use in an English public school." A mere glance shows that the author is past master in the art of making the learning of French an attractive business—we had almost said pastime. We are all the more at a loss to know why he should have allowed himself to talk about "nasalized vowels" in English, when he means vowels followed by a nasal consonant, and to assert that "the French sound 'ban' is halfway between the English sounds 'barn' and 'bong.'" Some of his other remarks on the phonetics are not very happy, and we question the utility of teaching pupils to pronounce *t* and *l* otherwise than in English. (On page 1 of Part I. (bottom) *b* is misprinted for *l*.) In Part II., page 184, the following note strikes one as being too mirth-provoking to be useful: "took to his heels," say "took his legs to his neck." It is very doubtful whether idiom is learnt by means of crude dissections of this kind.

MESSRS. ADAM AND CHARLES BLACK.

LA PREMIÈRE ANNÉE DE FRANÇAIS. A Day in Paris. Written and Edited by F. B. Kirkman, B.A. 2s.

We envy the children who begin to learn French from this book. It describes a day passed by an English boy in a French family at Paris, and thus teaches a vocabulary of common terms, and gives the pupil some knowledge of life in France. There are capital pictures of places of interest in Paris, as well as a map of the city, on which, by means of thickly drawn lines, it is possible to follow the children's walks abroad. The whole is in French, and in the hands of a capable and enthusiastic teacher would certainly realise the best way of beginning to get acquainted with a modern language.

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS.

A PRACTICAL GERMAN GRAMMAR, READER AND WRITER. Part I.: Elementary. 2s. By Louis Lubovius.

We have here the first part of a text-book for the study of German as a living language, on a strictly grammatical basis. The method is the result of many years' practical experience in teaching, and is a compromise between the "old" purely grammatical system and that of the "new" or "reform" movement. In this it seems very successful, and may be cordially recommended to classes of beginners in the difficult German tongue.

THE CLARENDON PRESS, OXFORD.

JEAN SBOGAR. By Charles Nodier. Edited by D. Ll. Savory, M.A.

HISTOIRE D'UN HOMME DU PEUPLE. By Erckmann-Chatrian. Edited by R. E. A. Chessex, B.A.

The Oxford Modern French Series, edited by Professor Delbos, makes steady progress, and the two texts now before us are worthy accessions to the series. It is difficult to refrain from comparisons, however odious, and we are bound to say that Mr. Savory's notes are marked by a care and finish which those of Mr. Chessex conspicuously lack as a whole. Not that there is anything notably wrong or incor-

rect in the latter; but they have little interest in themselves. On page 123 of Mr. Savory's annotations a curious slip occurs: The "great black-*beaked* gull" should be "the great black-*backed* gull."

COMBINED GERMAN READER, WRITER, AND GRAMMAR. By H. G. Spearing, M.A.

This book is not intended for very young pupils, nor for self-instruction; it is a class-book for those who have already had some grounding in grammatical principles, and who have a teacher. Mr. Spearing believes that the best way to learn a modern language is to acquire, as soon as possible, a large stock of common words, and to secure that, in the passages for translation, and in the exercises, no exception to any rule shall be allowed to appear until the beginner is thoroughly familiar with the rule. Therefore, about 1,000 words have been selected, and the passages for translation written or arranged to contain only those words, to ensure that they should recur frequently, and to exclude, as far as possible, all expressions not conforming to the rules given. Such a method has certain advantages, and might work well. But perhaps the more natural way is the old one of learning the words of some simple poem or piece of prose as they occur, and grammar in the usual way. We fear there is no royal road to a knowledge of German grammar except that of assiduous study.

MR. W. B. CLIVE, UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS.

THE FRENCH MATRICULATION COURSE. By Ernest Weekley, M.A. 3s. 6d.

This well-arranged grammar, written on old-fashioned lines, is thoroughly adapted to its purpose, and has deservedly reached its third edition. The English equivalents of the illustrative sentences are remarkably good and above the average standard, the sequence of tenses is clearly set out, and the present participle and gerund are properly distinguished. The following suggestions for improvement may be found useful in preparing the fourth edition. Greater care should be exercised in the use of brackets; on page 31 we find *il est midi moins* (*le* or *un*) *quart*. How many alternatives does this imply? The real nature of the infinitival constructions with *faire*, etc., should be explained; the bare statement on page 201 is not illuminative. Page 142: "After beginning by making himself useful, he had ended by becoming indispensable." This is a clumsy sentence, and an opportunity has been lost of showing how "at first" and "at last" may be idiomatically rendered by *commencer par* and *finir par*. On page 162, "*il dina d'un gigot*" is given as an instance of *de*="on"; but the usual idiom is "off" in this case. The time-honoured, but absolutely archaic, *souris* "smile" greets us once more, in deference, presumably, to the wrong-headed requirements of examiners.

FRENCH PROSE COMPOSITION. By E. Weekley, M.A.

The four essential parts of this handbook are: (1) A treatment of all important points of syntax with exercises based on each section, including the order of words and of clauses; (2) hints on translation, involving points of style, with exercises also; (3) passages for translation, the first fifty of which are suitable for London Matriculation students; (4) notes on the passages. All the introductory matter, viz., Parts I. and II., occupying 130 pages, is remarkably well planned and executed. The chief defect of the book is in Part III., which contains 158 pieces, whereas three times that number would be barely sufficient to afford adequate practice in the various grades of difficulty that are represented. In fact, the author has attempted to throw at least three books into one, and it is not surprising that he has failed, though the failure has many marks of merit. The last twelve pieces are misnumbered, 103-114 instead of 147-158.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND CO.

LES CARACTÈRES PAR LA BRUYÈRE. Adapted and Edited by Eugène Pellissier. 2s. 6d.

Siepmann's series of Classical French Texts, selected from authors of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, opens with this scholarly edition of a selection from La Bruyère. Besides the notes proper, the volume contains a summary of the chief grammatical peculiarities occurring in the text; then follow appendices: (1) words and phrases for *vivâ voce* drill; (2) sentences on syntax and idioms; (3) passages for translation in French; (4) subjects for free composition. We trust that not one of the succeeding numbers of this series will be allowed to fall below the level of this excellent production. It is a pleasure to handle a book so carefully written and so neatly printed and bound. It is impossible, however, to leave it without a protest against the unpleasing abbreviation "sg." for "something."

MESSRS. METHUEN AND CO.

A JUNIOR FRENCH PROSE. By R. R. N. Baron, M.A. 2s.

This manual is arranged mainly on the lines of the same author's "French Rose Composition." It contains (1) examples and rules of syntax, (2) exercises in everyday language, and (3) graduated continuous passages. It is with the first part of the book that we are chiefly concerned, for this, we take it, is the basis of the whole fabric. There are some good points in the introductory pages, such as the treatment of prepositions, but we recommend Mr. Baron to make a careful study of the art of expression before he endeavours to rank as an exponent of syntax. The following are examples of his laxness:—"Notice the construction *when something is done to someone*"; "When used literally (*sic*) with *que* the verb follows its logical construction: *Peut-être que . .* "; "Elliptical statements are not used in French." We had fondly supposed that statements of this kind were to be found only in the papers of junior examinees. Why does the author treat *plus que* and *plus de* under the heading Comparison of Adjectives, and make a point of singling out the use of the subjunctive in certain relative clauses for special notice as "a Latin construction"? A judicious revision of the first 60 pages would make this a trustworthy and useful handbook.

MR. JOHN MURRAY.

GRAMMAIRE FRANÇAISE ÉLÉMENTAIRE. By W. Mansfield Poole, M.A. 2s. 6d.

Since the need for grammars of French in French began to make itself felt, there have been numerous attempts to meet it, ranging from the scholarly and thoroughly scientific "Première grammaire française" by Mr. Berthon down to the merest transcription into French words of the ordinary grammar written in English. The book before us holds a position intermediate between these two. Like the work above mentioned, it treats the accidence and syntax of the several parts of speech together, but, unlike it, it retains the ordinary mechanical classification of the conjugations. It is a singularly uneven production, its excellences being more than counterbalanced by its defects, e.g., the one-sided treatment of gender rules, the meagreness of the section on the preposition, and, above all, the monstrous heresy of regarding the gerund (*en riant*) as a participle. The almost entire absence of any help in the phonetics of the language is a serious deficiency; there is no reason given for the ç in *avançons* or the e in *nageons*. More exercises on the adjustment of tenses, such as Mr. Poole has given in paragraph 87, would be welcome; they are a redeeming feature of this book.

MESSRS. T. NELSON AND SONS.

(1) ELEMENTARY OBJECT LESSONS IN FRENCH. Book I.; (2) Object Lessons in French, Book II.; (3) Advanced Course of Object Lessons in French, Book III. By Alec Cran, M.A., etc. 1s. 6d. each.

The first of these is a tantalising book. It opens with instructions for the teacher, which are surely out of place in a child's book. Conversation in French follows, and we suppose ourselves really launched in the "new" method. But question and answer are punctuated by irritating directions to master and pupil, printed in italics. Then we come to grammar, and are at once back in the "old" method, with paradigms, English being the medium of instruction. The book is not even relieved by its illustrations, which are dull, and in some cases ludicrous. At the end are exercises in phonetics, and a synopsis of grammar. In the first there are some remarkably loose statements. There is space here only to notice that it is recommended to begin instruction in the difficult "liquid" *gn* with the syllables *gna, gne*, and so forth. If we remember rightly, there are about half-a-dozen words with an initial liquid *gn*—enough on that point. It is due to Mr. Cran to say that he makes a much better job of the other two books. The conversations are interesting and progressively instructive. We could have wished for better drawing in some of the pictures, and we question the desirability of introducing the pupil to so much technical language as is to be found in the advanced course; but both books contain a good deal of useful material.

MESSRS. SWAN SONNENSCHEIN AND CO.

A PRACTICAL FRENCH GRAMMAR. By F. W. Aveling, M.A., B.Sc. 3s.

This is a book not meant for very young beginners. It is intended to help students who are preparing for examinations and require a practical knowledge of French. Some knowledge of Latin in the learner is taken for granted, and very wisely there is no regular vocabulary. Mr. Aveling rightly thinks it can never be too soon to begin to use a dictionary. So far as we have examined it, the volume seems to be concise, clear and practical.

History and Geography.

MR. EDWARD ARNOLD.

A JUNIOR HISTORY OF ENGLAND FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE DEATH OF QUEEN VICTORIA. By Charles and Mary Oman. 2s.

This little book was written to fulfil a desire expressed for a short outline of the History of England for use in

forms junior to those in which Prof. Oman's larger History of England is at present employed. The little volume is a model of compression, and yet the narrative is always flowing and clear. These authors, believing that the young student should first endeavour to master the last 300 years of the annals of England, have, in proportion, dealt with that period at greater length than with the Early and Middle Ages. Teachers of history seem to differ on that point, but they will all agree, we feel sure, on the general excellence of this Junior History of England.

Messrs. W. F. Burnside and A. S. Owen, assistant masters at Cheltenham College, have written a volume of **Short Lives of Great Men** (3s. 6d.), which deserves to have a large circulation in and out of school. The origin of the idea of this little book is interesting. A reredos has been erected in Cheltenham College from the design of Mr. H. A. Prothero, as a memorial of old Cheltonians who fell in the South African War. It has been filled with figures illustrating certain aspects of English history and representative men of different callings of life. This book gives an account of these great men, and is illustrated by reproductions of eight of the figures in the reredos. The list is a worthy one, comprising some forty-four names from St. Alban and King Arthur to Charles Gordon, and including William of Wykeham, Caxton, Tyndale, Gresham, Wren, Handel, Raikes, Jenner, Chantrey, Franklin, and Livingstone. Such a book ought to find a place in every school library.

MESSRS. ADAM AND CHARLES BLACK.

THE GLORY OF LONDON. By G. E. Mitton. Containing Six Illustrations in Colour and Forty-eight in Black and White.

It is thought that this little history of London may be read in elementary schools and in the lower forms of secondary schools, and so help to quicken the sense of citizenship in the children. History and topography are combined in an interesting way. We first learn the connection of the Britons and Saxons with London, then get glimpses of Norman, Mediæval, Tudor, and Stuart London, the last division dealing with modern London and how to see it from the top of an omnibus. One of the coloured full-page illustrations is entitled "A Cabman and his Horse." As horse-carriages are fast disappearing from the streets, it is a happy thought to have recorded here what in a few years will be an obsolete mode of locomotion. The description of modern London is less successful than that of older London —but it would naturally be a far more difficult task. What the Germans call *Heimatkunde*, knowledge of the immediate district in which the school-house is situated, ought to be made a prominent lesson in our schools of every grade.

A BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY READER. 2s. 6d.

This consists of a number of selected lives from this firm's "History in Biography Series" (several volumes of which have appeared), arranged for use in primary schools by Miss Beatrice A. Lees, of Somerville College. The biographies include those of Alfred, Wyclif, Raleigh, Cromwell, John Wesley, and the two Pitts, besides others. The illustrations are numerous, and, on the whole, good, and there is a useful summary and list of dates.

For the series "Regional Geography," Mr. J. B. Reynolds has provided another picturesque volume, entitled "Europe and the Mediterranean Region" (2s.). The publishers have very wisely given these books an unusually large page, and thereby made it possible to do justice to the beautiful illustrations and fresh maps they have reproduced on nearly every page. The exposition of physical facts and economic data is clear and, of course, quite modern, and it is wonderful that so much information of a practical kind could have been got into so small a space. We strongly advise teachers to examine for themselves this ably-written series.

SUMMARY OF ENGLISH HISTORY. By Norman L Frazer, B.A.

This delightful volume should make the learning of the facts of English history a joy for ever. The information, as regards its quantity, quality, and arrangement, could scarcely be improved, and the fifty-three illustrations, chiefly portraits, are of the greatest interest. It would form a capital book of reference for the class-room. In addition to the features common to most historical summaries, it contains short notes on special topics, such as feudalism, party government, and free trade; a glossary of some historical terms, and a series of short biographies from King Alfred to Gladstone. Indeed, the teacher would be doing most valuable work if he trained his pupil to use intelligently for himself such a *vade mecum*. It cannot be too often insisted on how important a part of education it is to teach the pupil how to help himself.

MESSRS. CASSELL AND CO., LTD.

Messrs. Cassell send us four volumes of their **Our Empire Series**, including "Australasia, the Britain of the South" (2s. 6d.); "India, our Eastern Empire" (2s. 6d.); "Canada, Britain's Largest Colony" (2s. 6d.); and "Founders of the Empire" (2s. 6d.). All except the Canada volume (which is written by Mr. A. L. Haydon) are by Mr. Philip H. Gibbs. They are all worthy of the highest recommendation, being brightly written and illustrated more freely and carefully than is customary with school books as a rule. The volume on Canada contains an enthusiastic preface by Lord Strathcona, and, besides descriptions of the various provinces, has attractive chapters on the great company, on farm and ranch, with the lumbermen, Canadian Indians, and the animals of Canada. The founders of the Empire in this series include Alfred, Stephen Langton, and Simon de Montfort, to whom one-third of the book is devoted. Would it not have been better to begin with Drake, and thus find room for men of the stamp of Livingstone and Gordon?

The well-known **Citizen Reader** (1s. 6d.) has been "revised, reset, and re-illustrated," and we must not forget to mention the additional advantage of a form for the deposit of one shilling in the Post Office, provided in each copy. This book and its companion volume, Dr. G. R. Parkin's "Round the Empire" (1s. 6d.), which we are glad to see has reached its 143rd thousand, fully deserve their great success, for they have at present no equals in the market.

THE CLARENDON PRESS.

The name of Dr. Herbertson conveys a guarantee of accurate workmanship and picturesque treatment in matters geographical, and the combination of Dr. Herbertson and the Clarendon Press in the production of "The Oxford Geographies," of which the volume, **Junior Geography** (2s.) is now issued, has resulted in a text-book which easily takes the lead among its competitors. Anyone who wishes to gauge the progress made of late in the methods of teaching geography should examine this really wonderful little book, with its multitude of maps, charts, and diagrams. nearly two hundred in number, covering every important phase of physical feature and human activity. Naturally, the largest section of the book is that dealing with the British Islands; Europe claims the next largest proportion, followed by America and the other Continents. The letterpress is notable for the care with which a choice has been made in the maze of statistics; that it is up-to-date goes without saying. This volume contains the regional geography necessary for examination of the standard of the Oxford Junior Local. We shall eagerly await the issue of the volume dealing specially with physical geography.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND CO.

AN INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICAL GEOGRAPHY. By A. T. Simmons and Hugh Richardson. 2s. 6d.

Besides the results of the author's experience in teaching, an amount of material collected by Prof. R. A. Gregory in the preparation of his revised edition of Huxley's "Physiography" is contained in this book. It is primarily a book of suggestions and exercises, providing courses in practical geography which should prove the best possible ground-work for "our future explorers, colonists, merchants, soldiers, and others who assist in the work of the Empire." Teachers of the old-fashioned school of geography would assuredly be amazed at these lessons on the thermometer and barometer, studies of wave motion and combined periodic curves, "which find their most elegant illustrations in the phenomena of the tides." The book is divided into four main sections, dealing with maps, the globe, climate, and land and sea respectively. It is profusely illustrated by diagrams, charts, and views, and without doubt will achieve the success which the infinite pains bestowed upon it so richly deserve.

MESSRS. HORACE MARSHALL AND SON.

A PRIMER OF GENERAL HISTORY. Part II. Mediæval History. By M. A. Howard. 2s. 6d.

Mediæval history is a large subject, and such a text-book or primer as the one before us will serve to supplement the class lesson and save the pupil taking superfluous notes. It covers the ground from 476 to 1492, is provided with lists of dates, and genealogical tables, simple maps, and a bibliography of the most important and accessible books bearing on the subject. The illustrations mean well, but they are so badly reproduced as to be quite uninspiring, either from the historical or artistic standpoint.

A FIRST HISTORY OF ENGLAND. By C. Linklater Thomson. Part VI., 1689-1820. 2s. 6d.

We have nothing but praise for this History of England. It is perfectly adapted to its purpose, is attractively written, based on original authorities, and capitally illustrated, often from contemporary prints. Miss Thomson seems to think, however, that the history of the 18th century is not suited to junior pupils (under 14), and therefore her treatment of it is more advanced than that of the periods dealt with in the five former parts of the series. It would naturally depend on the particular plan of history teaching adopted in the

school, how early the pupil would study the 18th century; at any rate, the beginner could not find a better guide than Miss Thomson.

The excellent series entitled "Illustrative History," published by this firm, now includes a volume, "Stuart Period" (2s. 6d.), edited by Mr. J. W. B. Adams, the headmaster of the County School, Tenby. The difficulty of selection from original documents and contemporary chroniclers is naturally enhanced when one is dealing with such a period, so full of records and charged with many interests. But Mr. Adams has succeeded in making the most interesting volume of the whole series, and his compilation forms a useful model to teachers who may wish to construct for themselves a similar aid to history lessons.

Mr. A. S. Lamprey, B.A., has edited little volumes of selections from Prescott's "Conquest of Peru" (1s. 3d.), and "Conquest of Mexico" (1s. 3d.). There are no notes whatever, and the illustrating of the books is done in a rudimentary manner, which seems to show that the publishers are not aware of the rich possibilities of obtaining at least views of the countries described from recently published books. Instead of turning to these, they have had recourse to old drawings from Charnay and still less satisfactory sources. But the worst example of a good book spoiled by the process of publishing is afforded by Miss M. A. Howard's "Mediæval History" (2s. 6d.), a book which gives ample opportunity for artistic treatment. The pictures used have all suffered in the process of reproduction; we would suggest that the block of Dürer's Charlemagne used for p. 27 has now served its day, as this illustration also appears in other school books issued by this firm. There is little purpose served by printing such cuts as the conventional design of a Viking ship on p. 47, and the section of the Bayeaux tapestry on p. 129 no more illustrates the crossing of the Channel than Mr. E. T. Reed's prehistoric peeps illustrate earlier periods of life. In these days, when the accuracy of maps is so strangely insisted on, Miss Howard's careful work deserved a better fate than to be associated with the infantile productions printed at the end of the book. We would suggest a complete revision of the illustrations when a new edition is printed. With regard to the book itself, we have nothing but praise for the wide reading, safe judgment, and lucid exposition of Miss Howard. Some such primer dealing with the Middle Ages has long been needed, even when we take into consideration Mr. Emerton's useful book, and this volume is rendered more valuable by the references to originals and by its comprehensive index.

MURRAY'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND. An Outline History for Middle Forms. By M. A. Tucker. 3s.

There is a certain sameness in text-books of English History. Miss Tucker states in her preface that the true aim of a history text-book is to stimulate curiosity to know more, and we venture to think she has succeeded. Her book differs somewhat from the usual manual, in that she strives to show how England's development is part of the wide movement of European history. In that way she hopes a teacher of history may be able to do something to remove the reproach of insularity and the lack of sympathy with other nations so often ascribed, and not without reason, to the English people. The narrative reads somewhat brokenly by the breaking of it up into paragraphs, with headings; but the style is clear, the information accurate, and the volume may be well recommended to the notice of teachers of history.

MESSRS. T. NELSON AND SONS.

In **The World and its People** Messrs. Nelson provide a new series of Geography Readers, which is claimed to be prepared in accordance with the geographical courses outlined in the latest specimen schemes of the Board of Education. The books are graded on the reasonable plan of beginning with the home and its surroundings and gradually leading up to a knowledge of the more distant parts of the earth. The first volume, "First Steps in Geography" (10d.), is written under the disguise of a story-book, and introduces little children to such physical data as can be simply explained. It is thoroughly well done, and should prove a success. The next volume, "Sea and Land" (1s.), expounds the more difficult problems of elementary physiography. Volume III. is entitled "The British Isles" (1s. 6d.); Volume IV., "Asia" (1s. 6d.); and Volume VI., "The World, with special reference to Greater Britain" (2s.). The books are well printed in large modern types, and excellently illustrated, partly in colours. Of an interesting series, perhaps the volume on the British Isles deserves the most praise, with its well-balanced chapters, brightly-coloured pictures of the Norfolk Broads, Manchester Ship Canal, blast furnaces at Newport, scenes in the Highlands, cathedral cities, and Sackville-street, Dublin, and the numerous other illustrations. Is it, by the way, correct to say that Palapye is the largest native town in South Africa, now that Khama has gone to Serowe? On p. 131 of the last volume, it would be accurate to describe the heights in the Scandinavian Kjölen, or Keel, as exceeding 6,500 feet, not 8,000 feet. And the reference to the King of Norway and Sweden will no doubt be altered in a new edition.

School Management, Logic, etc.

W. B. CLIVE.

SCHOOL TRAINING. By R. E. Hughes. 2s.

This little book of 118 pages is prepared to meet the Board of Education requirements under the heading of "The Aims of School Training." The volume has none of the repellent features of the ordinary book with an examination behind it. It is well printed, and except for useful, heavy-typed descriptive headlines, differs in no way from an ordinary book. Strangely enough, in a book correlated with an examination we are not told what training *is*. It is true that the whole book may be said to be an answer to the question: What is training? And in the section on Knowledge and Mental Power we have the question almost categorically answered. But your dull pupil, who must have everything done for him, will be irritated if the Board of Education think of asking this fundamental question. This criticism, however, must not be taken as adverse. The book demands intelligent reading, and it encourages such reading by arousing interest. There is a freshness of treatment that is unusual in such manuals. The matter is very fully illustrated by quotations from competent authorities, and the student who masters what is here set before him will have a real command of the prescribed subject.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION. By S. E. Bray. 2s.

Specially prepared for that part of the Board of Education syllabus for the Certificate Examination that demands a knowledge of "School organisation, types of schools, school premises, staffing, school records, school discipline," the book will be either a blessing or a curse, according to the use made of it. The mass of detail is unavoidable, since it is necessary that the student should become acquainted with the various regulations of the Educational authorities. The elaborate time-tables, schemes of classification, and above all, the interminable registration and other records, call for pity for the teacher, but cannot be charged against the author of the manual. But he rather lends himself to perpetuation of the numerical scourge, by the way he arranges his matter under numbered heads. After dealing with the ordinary aids to discipline, he gravely sets out "other aids to discipline" to the number of twenty-three. It is not that these twenty-three aids are not valuable, but that the numbering lends itself to a form of study that young teachers are only too apt to adopt. The book is full of these numbered lists. The *pros* and *cons* regarding co-education are thus numbered: five *cons* and six *pros*. There is a type of mind that will at once consider this question settled by a majority of one. Mr. Bray will no doubt retort that he expects his book to be taught and studied by intelligent people, and if this condition be fulfilled, it may confidently be recommended in the warmest terms. It is the work of a man of ripe experience and wide knowledge, and places at the disposal of the reader all the information necessary for the most effective mastery of the subject.

MESSRS. T. C. AND E. C. JACK.

ETHICS. By C. W. Saleeby, M.D. Shilling Scientific Series. 118 pp.

It is not an easy thing to write a short introduction to ethics. It needs familiarity with ethical thought as well as with the facts of life, careful selection of the points which are important for the beginner, candour in dealing with controversial questions, and a style which can explain difficulties but will never obscure them. These qualities may guard a writer from serious error, even if he have no special genius for moral insight. Dr. Saleeby seems to have under-rated the difficulties of his task; at any rate, he has not overcome them; and it is hard to think of any class of readers who would profit by his book. It is more of a pamphlet than an introduction; it is highly controversial in tone; but it gives out a maximum of heat to a minimum of light, and it is without the unity which one looks for in a good pamphlet. Some of the little discussions are interesting enough and quite suitable for the columns of a newspaper in the "silly" season; but they are not what is wanted by the beginner in ethics. In the chapter on the origin of morality, stress is quite correctly laid on the increasing prominence of altruistic instincts and activities in the development of organic life. Whether these involuntary processes should be called "moral" or not is a point on which opinions may differ. What is important is to make clear the distinction between these and the voluntary actions in which altruistic conduct is chosen with the end in view. The former may, if one wishes, be called morality; but it is only into the latter that moral ideas enter and influence conduct. The author does not make the distinction clear, and thus gains an empty

triumph for his assertion "that morality is æons of æons older than the oldest creed." The triumph is empty because no one ever denied that altruistic instincts existed before any religion. Dr. Saleeby tells his readers with emphasis that "natural selection selects morality." That is true; but unfortunately it has "selected" other things as well, including many immoral qualities. He is troubled by Nietzsche's inversion of morality and that writer's claim to the support of natural selection for his immoralism. "As for natural selection," writes Dr. Saleeby, "we are not to be bullied by that phrase." Has he reflected whether he has ever been in danger of "bullying" other people by it? He relies now upon Nature, now upon Utility, for his discrimination between good and evil; but he seems quite unaware of the difficulties involved in connecting those two conceptions. The book is full of controversial remarks about views other than the author's own. The remarks are bitter enough in tone; but the references are quite vague, and no effort would seem to have been made to understand the views criticised. It is said that "every thinker of every school in every time agrees with all others that 'life is good or bad, according as it does, or does not, bring a surplus of agreeable feeling'"—a statement which betrays the curious limitation of the writer's knowledge. Throughout the book the criticisms are usually coloured by the author's theological, or atheological, interest. The mention of theology renders him almost hysterical; and yet he cannot keep it out of his pages, while such epithets as "damnable," "diabolical" adorn his criticisms. From which it may be seen that he has left himself enough theology to swear by.

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A PRIMER OF SCHOOL METHOD. By T. F. G. Dexter and A. H. Garlick. 2s. 6d.

We have a solid volume of 234 pages that may be called a primer only by comparison with Mr. Garlick's larger work on the same subject. In addition to two general chapters, one on Discipline and the other on Method, the book contains discussions of the method of teaching all the subjects included in the curriculum of an elementary school. The treatment is in most cases very minute, and the arrangement by heads and subheads is too elaborate. But for examination purposes the book is excellent, and an intelligent teacher could make a capital use of the manual by a judicious selection from the abundant material supplied. The purpose of the authors is to provide such practical advice as shall compensate the young teachers who are henceforth to receive a practical training limited to "one half of a two years' course"; and, so far as a book can compensate for practical training, they may be said to have succeeded in carrying out their purpose. Their criticisms and advice are usually well up to date. It is quite exceptional to find them making the mistake of insisting upon "the complete answer" fetish in the teaching of composition. The Primer is a good book, of a not very good kind.

BOYS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOL. 2s. 6d. net.

Mr. H. Bompas Smith, himself an experienced teacher, gives us a useful little manual for the guidance of young masters fresh from the university. There is nothing of the "preparation for examination" about the book, which can be read with interest and profit by anyone having to do with boys. The advice is eminently practical, and there is abundance of those references to personal experiences that carry conviction to the reader. It would be a help to young masters if Dr. Warner's form, quoted on pp. 28-29, were filled up for a typical pupil. Most young teachers would be quite at a loss to know what sort of entries to make opposite such things as "Ears," "Response to stimulus," "Expression of face." One of the best features of the book is the distinct recognition that boys require totally different treatment at different ages. Innumerable blunders arise in school from neglect of this patent fact. Considerable emphasis is laid on the matter of punishment; but when we remember that a German investigator has discovered that there are over nine hundred words required to name the different juvenile defects, one feels that perhaps Mr. Bompas Smith is right. The book can be strongly recommended as a thoroughly reliable, practical guide.

MR. JOHN MURRAY.

A PRIMER OF LOGIC. By E. E. Constance Jones, Principal of Girton College, Cambridge. 188 pp. 1s. 6d.

This little book gives a clear and accurate summary of the doctrines of the traditional Logic, as modified by recent writers. It covers the main doctrines both of deduction and of induction, and includes chapters on language and definition, and on fallacies. There are also tables of names, propositions, and inferences, questions on each chapter, a selection of questions from examination papers, and an excellent index, in which the technical terms used in the book are defined. The book may be recommended as a convenient and trustworthy manual.

Dictionaries, Atlases, etc.

MR. EDWARD ARNOLD.

"The Home and Abroad Atlas," which contains twenty-four quarto maps, brightly coloured, for eightpence, must surely be the cheapest of its kind published. The maps are of varying quality and style; in some the colouring is merely ornamental, in others coloured contours are laid over hachures, and over both names are engraved, producing a blotchy appearance. The selection of names would bear revision in another edition; and in the map of North America the names Chicago and New York should hardly be printed in larger type than that of any of the land names.

MESSRS. A. AND C. BLACK.

"Black's Picture Lessons in English." Book I. (6d.), is the prettiest little colour book for school use that we have seen, and how fifteen of these cheery pages, reproduced from paintings by Miss Jungman, Mrs. Allingham, Francis Walker, and others can be given for the price, is a mystery. The letterpress is of little value: if children do not learn to express themselves correctly at home and in school by the natural process, they will not do so through exercises of this kind.

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

"Burke's Speeches on American Taxation and Conciliation with America" (3s.) are here edited by Mr. Arthur D. Innes, M.A., who has provided notes and really well-written introductions, which make this edition doubly useful. In the general introduction we read: "Romance is Burke's distinctive characteristic. The value of the speeches in this volume—apart from their purely historical interest—was not exhausted when the taxation and the conciliation of the American Colonies vanished for ever from the field of politics; they are expositions of undying political truths, applicable to problems which may confront us as well in the twentieth century as in the eighteenth."

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Something more than a dictionary is Messrs. Cassell and Company's "New French and English Dictionary" (3s. 6d.), for its collection of idioms and idiomatic phrases make it also something of a grammar and a safe instructor. To this volume the words "marvel of cheapness" may justly be applied, for in lowering its former price of seven and sixpence to less than half that sum, the publishers have thoroughly revised and greatly enlarged it. The four years' work of initial compilation by that eminent French authority, M. James Boïelle, has now again been overlooked and revised by Mr. de U. Payen-Payne, and in its present form the volume, with its clear type, unusually helpful phonetic scheme for pronunciation, and carefully selected terms, ranks as the best and cheapest dictionary we know of in handy, "popular" form.

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We specially wish to draw the attention of our readers to a lecture by Prof. Clifford Allbutt, one of our most eminent scientists, delivered last October at King's College, London, and now printed under the title, "On Professional Education" (2s.). It will give matter for deep thought to those who have the direction of education in their hands. It contains a strong indictment of the products of public school education; the public school boy Dr. Allbutt finds wanting in curiosity for knowledge, intellectual seriousness and flexibility, endurance of attention, self-possession, and ideas. "With the spirit of Greek he is as deeply imbued as with Chinese." The following sentences, taken at random from this little book, show its germinative value, its richness in what Carlyle called the grand thaumaturgic faculty of thought:—

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MESSRS. METHUEN.

We would strongly urge every teacher to obtain a copy of "The Historical and Modern Atlas of the British Empire" (4s. 6d. net), which has been prepared by Messrs. C. Grant Robertson, Fellow of All Souls, and J. S. Bartholomew. Nothing equal to it has hitherto been published, and every page, from the able Introduction, on the relation of geography to history, and the Gazetteer, to the ingenious diagram illustrating the expansion of the Empire, bears the marks of scholarly care. We like the colour schemes and the arrangement of types, as well as the novelty of ideas. Here are maps illustrating bathy-orographical features, vegetation, temperature, rainfall, population, commercial development, and the distribution of coal and iron. We note the spelling "Di Gama" in the Introduction, and "Favence" (for "Favenc") in the admirable bibliography, in which we think room might have been found for Mr. W. B. Worsfold's book on South Africa, published by Messrs. Methuen. This atlas forms a desirable adjunct to the "Imperial Reader" reviewed in these columns, and deserves the widest circulation.

MR. JOHN MURRAY.

"Murray's School Atlas" (6s.), edited by Dr. G. R. Grundy, is a very neat folio of fifteen sheets, including one of the principal battlefields in Greek and Roman history. In most of the maps the system of coloured contours instead of hachures has been adopted, with the result of greater legibility. But of course this involves much closer attention in using the maps, as the meaning of the different colours has to be learnt. We note the spellings "Eburacum" on Map IV. and "Eboracum" on Maps II. and III., whilst Exeter is "Isca Damnoniorum" in the index, but "Isca Dumnoniorum" on Map IV.

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